THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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Shanghai mail advices of 10th November were received in London on the 15th December.

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The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, DEC. 29, 1893.

THE revenue collected by the Customs at Kowloon and Lappa in the third quarter of this year was slightly less than in 1892 and nearly ten per cent. less than in 1891, the comparative figures being :—

	1893. Hk. Tls.	1892. Hk. Tls.	1891. Hk. Tls.
Kowloon.....	114,314	125,760	114,764
Lappa	95,799	92,034	116,372
Total.....	210,013	217,794	231,136

At Kowloon the deficiency this year was under opium duty and likin, duty inwards, and *chingfei* tax inwards, the other heads of revenue showing an improvement. At the four stations comprised in Kowloon 6,615 junks were reported inwards and 4,137 steam-launches, with 6,614 junks and 4,137 steam-launches outwards, while 218 junks went from Hongkong to Macao, and 205 from Macao to Hongkong. The import of opium amounted to 188 piculs against 205 piculs in 1892. There was a considerable decline in cotton goods imported, the comparative figures for cotton yarn being

	1893.	1892.	1891.
Indian, piculs.....	135	116	984

In woollens, there was an improvement in Spanish stripes, cloth, and lustres, with a marked falling-off in woollen thread and braid. In metals also there was an almost general decline, and in foreign sundries with some exceptions. The comparative figures for kerosene oil were in cases :—

	1893.	1892.	1891.
American	133,813	236,305	54,010
Russian.....	32,284	48,770	851

It is noticeable that under foreign sundries we find over 55,000 piculs of salt, against under 30,000 in 1892, and under 32,000 in 1891. Native sundries were on the whole well maintained. The principal point to notice under exports is that black tea rose, under the influence of the lower tariff granted to junks, from Pls. 5,396 in 1892 to Pls. 25,872 this year. Under the heading Passenger Traffic it is recorded that there were 216,838 passengers inwards, and 216,104 outwards at the four stations during the quarter.

The slight improvement shown this year at Lappa was entirely due to opium duty and likin, there having been a decline under all the other heads of revenue. The port of Lappa comprises two stations and three substations, and the number of junks that passed was :—

	Inwards	Outwards
Malowchow	1,511	1,596
Chienshan	965	886
Total...	2,476	2,482

The total quantity of opium imported was 401 piculs against 249 piculs in 1892 and 408 piculs in 1891. There was a decline in the import of cotton goods, T-cloths and handkerchiefs excepted, while the comparative figures for cotton yarn were :—

	1893.	1892.	1891.
English, piculs ...	nil	135	294
Indian ,, ...	12,502	22,070	34,700

Woollens and metals were only slightly below last year. In foreign sundries there was a considerable decline in Indian raw cotton, and an improvement in matches. The comparative figures for kerosene were, in cases :—

	1893.	1892.	1891.
American	10,227	15,737	5,703
Russian	114	2,287	736

Native sundries were fairly well maintained, brown and white sugar rising from 1,490 and 6,776 piculs in 1892 to 2,274 and 10,163 piculs respectively this year. In exports there was a slight falling-off in many articles of native consumption, but black tea, fired and unfired, rose from 3,348 and 4,478 piculs in 1892 to 5,446 and 5,750 piculs respectively this year. At the two stations comprised under Lappa there were 30,275 passengers inwards and 28,307 outwards during the quarter.

The revenue at the two Tongking frontier stations, Lungchow and Mêngtze showed a great advance on 1892, the comparative figures for three years being :—

	1893. Hk. Tls.	1892. Hk. Tls.	1891. Hk. Tls.
Lungchow,.....	302	266	446
Mêngtze	14,783	10,134	10,523
Total...	15,085	10,400	10,969

The trivial improvement at Lungchow was under both import and export duty. The number of junks reported at the Customs was 148 against 91 in

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1892. Imports were all slightly larger, dye-stuff and wooden sugar machines excepted. Exports include 52 piculs of Indian yarn against 40 piculs last year, but there was no other export of sufficient importance to notice, and the compilation of his quarterly returns is a very light task for the Acting Commissioner at Lungchow, who must earnestly pray for the completion of the Phulangthuong-Langson railway, and the increased trade that it is expected to bring.

At Mêngtze there was a great improvement under import duty, opium duty, and transit dues, and a slight falling-off under export duty. The tonnage of native craft entered and cleared was 470 and 404 tons, against 295 and 292 tons respectively in 1892; while the mules and ponies, carrying on the average 120 catties per head, reported were 20,029 in number, against 14,092 last year. In imports, there was a decline in cotton piece-goods, while the comparative figures for cotton yarn were :—

	1893.	1892.	1891.
Indian, piculs	9,835	5,904	3,726

There was a considerable improvement in long ells, while foreign and native sundries were on the whole well maintained. A considerable number of articles are given in the export table but the amounts are generally small; and it has been pointed out before that tin is unfortunately the only legitimate export of any great value to be found in south-west Yunnan, and there would be a rapid advance in the import trade, if the Tongking opium farmer could be induced to permit the free exportation of Yunnan opium to the French colony. The export of tin in slabs during the quarter was Pls. 2,024, against Pls. 2,148 in 1892 and Pls. 3,087 in 1891. The transit pass business continues to expand at Mêngtze, the number of passes issued being 4,592, against 3,219 in 1892 and 2,644 in 1891. The only movement in treasure recorded is the import from Tongking of dollars to the value of Tls. 1,280.

Summary of News.

The N. D. L. steamer *Sachsen*, with the German mail of the 20th ult., arrived here on Tuesday morning.

The American mail ex *Belgic*, with dates to 30th ultimo, arrived here on Tuesday by the *Kobe Maru*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Rohilla*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

AS YOU WERE.

London, 22nd December.

Mr. Joseph F. Leese, Q.C., Recorder of Manchester, has been re-elected member of Parliament for the Accrington Division, N. E. Lancashire, defeating Mr. Robt. T. Hermon-Hodge, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 258 votes.

[Mr. Leese's majority at the last General Election was 478.—Ed.]

DUKE ALFRED'S SELF-DENIAL.

Mr. Gladstone stated in the House of Commons yesterday that the Government had acquiesced in the decision of Duke Alfred of Coburg (Duke of Edinburgh) to renounce the annuity of £15,000 voted him by the country, while retaining his marriage annuity of £10,000.

Mr. Labouchere objected to the settlement and moved the adjournment of the House to discuss the matter, but permission was refused by a majority of 118.

EXTENSION OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

London, 23rd December.

The United States Government is sending a large fleet of warships to Rio de Janeiro, it is supposed with the object of preventing the restoration of the Brazilian Monarchy by the insurgents.

HONOURS TO MR. BELILIOS.

The Hon. E. R. Belilios, Member of the Hongkong Legislative Council, has been made a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

THE MATABELE WAR.

The latest advices from Mashonaland report that the forces under Major Forbes and Captain Wilson are all right. Lobengula has fled and the country is now quieting down.

THE ARDLAMONT MYSTERY.

A verdict of "Not Proven" has been returned in what is known as the Ardlamont Mystery, in which Mr. Monson was charged with the murder of Lieut. Hamborough.

ITALY ON THE RED SEA.

The Italian forces have defeated ten thousand dervishes with heavy loss near Massowah. The loss on the side of the Italians was four officers and one hundred men.

THE MATABELE WAR.

25th December.

Further despatches from Mashonaland state that Major Forbes repelled a fierce attack of the Matabele but his force was compelled, through lack of rations, to retreat from the Shangani river. During the retreat the gun carriages had to be abandoned, and the horses killed and eaten. The force has arrived safely at Inyati. [Inyati is about 40 miles N.E. of Buluwayo.—Ed.]

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

The Sultan of Morocco has promised to surrender the Kabyles who were the aggressors in the Melilla affair, and to pay a war indemnity. He also agrees to a settlement of a neutral zone.

ANARCHISM IN SPAIN.

The two authors of the Barcelona theatre outrage who were recently arrested have confessed their guilt.

RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES IN UGANDA.

London, 26th December.

It is reported that fresh fighting has broken out between the Protestants and Catholics in Uganda.

MADAGASCAR INTRACTABLE.

It is believed that France meditates sending an expedition to Madagascar, where organised bands of marauders are attacking the French outposts.

DISCOVERY OF AN ANARCHIST WORKSHOP.

An apparatus with the necessary material for manufacturing bombs on a wholesale scale has been found in a cavern of a mountain near Barcelona.

THE MATABELE WAR ENDED.

London, 27th December.

The Hon. Cecil Rhodes, Premier of the Cape Colony, has wired that the Matebele are now entirely subdued.

MORE RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES.

Religious conflicts have broken out amongst the Mussulmans and Armenians of Zuzgat (? Muscat) in which several Armenians were injured. A number of arrests were made.

RIOTS IN SICILY.

Serious riots are taking place in Sicily against the local taxes. A mob attacked the barracks at Caltanisetta and fired the Town Hall, Post Office, and other buildings. In a conflict between the troops and the people in the town of Lercara de Freddi several persons were shot.

COLONIAL LOYALTY.

London, 28th December.

The Premiers of the Australian Colonies have unanimously decided to invite T.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of York to visit the Colonies in 1894.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE EXPLOSION IN THE FRENCH CHAMBER.

Madrid, 10th December.

The number wounded by the explosion in the French Chamber exceeds a hundred, the majority being ladies in the Strangers' Galleries.

Only twenty deputies were wounded.

The President of the Chamber, M. Dupuy, received a slight wound in the face.

A shoemaker named Champeaux, who is believed to be the perpetrator of the crime, has been arrested.

THE MELILLA AFFAIR.

A camp service was held to-day in the fort of Sidi-Guariach at which twenty thousand troops attended.

The fort was blessed and named Concepcion.

The Riffs are commencing to re-construct the mosque at Sidi-Guariach, which is considered a peaceful sign.

13th December.

The despatches expected from Tangier have arrived.

In an interview with General Martinez Campos the Moorish Prince Muley Araaf offered that the tribes should destroy the trenches which they have constructed.

This news has caused a favourable impression.

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THE MELILLA AFFAIR.

Madrid, 16th December.

General Martinez Campos had an interview on Monday with the Moorish Prince Araaf. The General asked for the disarmament of the tribes; also the hostages previously requested, the punishment of the guilty parties, the demarkation of the neutral ground—the Moors to destroy the entrenchments they had constructed.

Prince Araaf said that he was only authorised to comply with the treaty and to see that the Spaniards do the same. He agreed to the punishment of the authors of the disorders. The Moors commenced to demolish the entrenchments on the same day.

Another interview has been convened but has not taken place.

The Sultan has written to the Queen Regent reiterating his friendship and offering entire satisfaction.

The public consider the conflict at an end.

General Arolas has been nominated Military Governor of Melilla.

17th December.

It is affirmed that at 2 p.m. the forts Camellos and San Lorenzo opened fire upon numerous Moors.

A storm which passed over Melilla has driven several vessels on the shores of the Spanish territory. Large numbers of Moors of the Mezuza tribe went there to plunder. General Campos telephoned to the forts to open fire on them. They dispersed at the first few shots.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Gaceta* of this day publishes a royal decree to the effect that the Manila Mint will continue coining subsidiary silver coins and authorising the coinage of decimal copper coins.

The 16th of March next is fixed for the receipt of tenders to construct the railway from Manila to Tsal, the Government giving a guarantee of 8% on the capital.

The Parliamentary Committee of the Congress of the United States has proposed the reduction of import duty on raw materials.

The author of the crime in the French Chamber of Deputies is one Vaillant, who has confessed his crime.

A law has been proclaimed in France suppressing the anarchist press.

A commission from the 'meeting' of Bilbao, which has been previously mentioned, has approached all the ministers and Sr Cánovas del Castillo, to request them to maintain the present tariff for ten years and to renounce the treaties.—*Manila Papers.*

THE BUFFER STATE.

Rangoon, 6th December.

It is semi-officially announced that no officers either from India or Burma will be appointed to the Buffer State Delimitation Commission unless Mr. J. G. Scott can be spared to take charge of it.

AN EXPLORING TRIP.

Captain Bower, the officer who recently explored Tibet, will endeavour to reach the source of the Irrawady this cold season. —*Siam Observer.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1893.

		Fahr. Thermometer. Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
Dec.	22	43°.2	52°.5	0.24
,,	23	41°.0	63°.0	.....
,,	24	38°.0	47°.8	.....
,,	25	38°.0	59°.0	.....
,,	26	45°.0	47°.8	.....
,,	27	37°.5	42°.0	.....
,,	28	35°.5	42°.2	.....

1892.

		Fahr. Thermometer. Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
Dec.	22	35°.0	62°.0	.....
,,	23	32°.5	60°.0	.....
,,	24	35°.8	51°.5	.....
,,	25	34°.0	47°.0	.....
,,	26	31°.8	50°.5	.....
,,	27	33°.0	56°.5	.....
,,	28	30°.0	47°.0	.....

Sicawei weather report, Friday, 22nd December, 10 a.m.: Yesterday a general fall of the barometer was experienced at Vladivostock, over Japan, at Manila, over the S. coast of China, and at Shanghai. Along the China coast the winds from varying directions remained moderate or light. This morning the barometer, rather low, is likely to rise. Fine weather may be expected, with moderate N.W. winds on the N. coast, and moderate N.E. winds on the S. coast.—Saturday, 23rd December, 10 a.m: Yesterday the barometer continued falling at all the stations on the S. and N. but the fall was greater in the N. The winds were moderate from S. or S.W. on the N. coast, but the N.E. monsoon was, however, keeping on rather strong in the Formosa Channel. This morning the barometer is very low at Shanghai. A gale from N.W. begining on the N. and gradually extending on the S. coast may be expected.—Monday, 26th December, 10 a.m.: While the barometer was quickly falling at Shanghai yesterday, it remained steady and rather low on the south coast where light variable winds were prevailing. The centre of low pressure, which was reported yesterday as lying in the west, passed this morning to the north of Shanghai travelling towards south Corea. The barometer is decidedly rising here. Cold but fine weather may be expected here, and strong N.W. winds along the north coast. In the Formosa Channel light winds will still prevail to-day, to be succeeded at night or to-morrow by strong N.E. winds.—Wednesday, 27th December, 10 a.m.: Yesterday, while the barometer already high at Tientsin was quickly rising at Shanghai with strong N.W. winds, and falling over Japan, it kept on steady in the Formosa Channel, where at 3 p.m. light variable breezes were still prevailing. The centre of the last low pressure passed very near Shanghai and travelled eastward towards the S.W. point of Japan instead of Corea. This morning the barometer at 2 mm. (0.08 in.) above its normal height is still rising. Strong N.E. winds may be expected on the S. coast and moderate or light N. winds on the N. coast.—Thursday, 28th December, 10 a.m.: The rise of the barometer which began here on the morning of the 26th, extended slowly southward, but yesterday evening in the whole Formosa Channel the barometer was rising and the monsoon was blowing very hard. Strong winds were prevailing also in the China Sea. The area of high barometric pressure is covering N. China, and a centre of low pressure is lying in the Pacific E. of Japan. Moderate or light winds from N. or N.W. may be expected on the N. coast and strong N.E. winds on the S. coast.

Reports from Chinkiang state that the so-called secret mission of the Viceroy's military secretary H.E. Ts'ai Chün, to Chinkiang, is in connection with the anticipated missionary riots at Yiling already referred to in these columns.

Owing to a telegram received from the high authorities at Soochow, Nieh, Taotai of this port, started suddenly for that city on Sunday evening. Shêng Taotai also left this for Soochow on Sunday on a visit to his father, and will be absent from Shanghai about a week.

Robberies by bands of men have become quite frequent lately in the vicinity of the Settlements. Recently we recorded one as having taken place a few miles west of this, at Hungjao. Since then two other robberies have happened in its neighbourhood the losses being $3,000 and $1,400 respectively. The authorities think that the robbers make Shanghai their headquarters.

People living at Nanking are being forced to be satisfied with a vegetarian diet at present owing to the absence of rain. A short time ago to bring about the desired end, cattle and pigs were prohibited from being slaughtered, but as the gods are still obdurate, the Viceroy has now decreed that no fish, crabs, or shrimps shall be caught or eaten until the clerk of the weather changes his present frame of mind.

A despatch from the capital of Formosa states that H.E. Shao Yü-lien, Governor of the island, has ordered the immediate commencement of the building of four new forts at Kelung, and further improvements and extension of the two old ones at present guarding the entrance to that port. The armament for the six forts will consist partly of guns from England and Germany, while the Kiangnan Arsenal will also furnish a few large ones.

A custom peculiar to the people living in Pootung was almost universally observed on Thursday, the festival of the Winter Solstice. This was the burning of the coffins and corpses of all the children under fourteen years of age who died between the Winter Solstices of last year and this. Any one who happened to look over towards the Pootung side on Thursday must have observed the numerous funeral pyres there, the smoke of which caused quite a haze. This is the only form of cremation—not counting the Buddhist rite for priests—which seems to exist in this portion of Kiangsu province.

A Tientsin despatch having reference to the Peiyang squadron under Admiral Ting, part of which is now at Woosung, states that the Viceroy Li, in view of complications in Corea (so far unexplained), has ordered four of the armoured cruisers to winter at Hongkong so as to be in readiness to start at once for Corea when telegraphed for. The rest or greater part will proceed for a cruise to Singapore or Saigon. Furthermore there will be three other vessels of war at Weihaiwei during the succeeding months also for the object of being within call of the Chinese Resident at Seoul. With reference to the above, which comes from an official source, as no very startling news has been received from Corea, this disposition of the Peiyang squadron fleet may, after all, mean nothing at all, but be only a sort of precaution against possible mishaps.

A telegram from Tientsin announces a fall of three inches of snow on Christmas Day. A prosperous year is accordingly anticipated by the farmers.

The settlement of the collision between the *Salazie* and *Soochow* has been submitted to arbitration. The Assessors are Captain Maudet of the French gunboat *Comète* and Lieut. V. Maud of H.M.S. *Caroline*, with Commander Impey of the U.S.S. *Monocacy* as umpire. The enquiry was held on board the *Monocacy* on Friday last.

We learn that the arbitrators in the *Salazie Soochow* collision came to the unanimous conclusion that the *Soochow* was in fault.

At the regular meeting of the Northern Lodge of China, No. 570 E. C., held in the Masonic Hall, on the 21st December, the following officers were installed by Rt. Wor. Bro. J. I. Miller, District Grand Master of Northern China, assisted by his officers:—

J. P. McEuen	W. M.
J. Graham	S. W.
F. L. Crompton	J. W.
W. H. Anderson, P. M.	Treasurer.
R. S. Ivy	Secretary.

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P. A. W. Ottomeier ..... S. D.
A. L. Anderson ..... J. D.
R. B. Allen ..... D. of C.
H. A. Collins ..... I. G.
J. C. Hanson ..... Steward.
H. C. Pearce ..... "
J. Gould ..... Tyler.

The annual Christmas festival in connection with the Shanghai Seamen's Mission was held in the China Inland Mission Hall on Tuesday evening. A large company of sailors from the men-of-war and merchant men in harbour, with friends from shore, quite filled the well-lighted and decorated hall. After a substantial tea, an opening prayer by Captain Newcomb, of the Missions to Seamen, and an address of welcome by Mr. Cranston the Chairman, a very interesting and enjoyable programme was gone through. A trio (violins and pianoforte) by the Misses Jansen, and a violin solo by Miss Jansen, were encored by the delighted audience, and vocal solos were pleasingly rendered by Miss Sharples, Mrs. Broumton, and Professor Bonnell. A vocal duet was given for the benefit of the German sailors, appropriate readings were given by Mrs. Muirhead and the Rev. W. P. Bentley, and instructive and powerful addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. Muirhead and John Stevens. Mr. Muirhead spoke of the Chinese—where they come from, what they learn and how they are taught it, some of their national characteristics, the wonderful results of mission work in the forty-seven years of the speaker's experience in China. These and other topics were all treated in a racy manner that commanded a close attention. After coffee a second and shorter meeting was held, the deep interest in which was largely owing to the rousing nature of Mr. Steven's address earlier in the evening. During the evening a side meeting was held for the benefit of the German sailors.

The Hongkong Cricket Club has written to ask the Shanghai Cricket Club if the latter will send down a Cricket XI early in February next, to play a match with Hongkong, and with Japan if an eleven should come from there. Mr. E. A. Ram writes: "I need not say what a pleasure it will be to us to see you here as our guests and we should hope to be able to give you some good cricket. I do not know how the time suggested will suit you but I mention it as it coincides more or less with China New Year, always a slack time with us (from a business point of view), and also because it would give a chance to any of your men who wished to do so of staying on for the races."

Fire broke out at 3.15 p.m. on Friday in a row of buildings in Hongkew in Teungming Road, between North Szechuen and North Kiangse Roads and destroyed eight houses. Owing to the watchman in the bell tower not seeing the flames for some time after the fire broke out owing to their not having gone through the roof, there was some delay in ringing the bells. The firemen were also handicapped through the paucity of hydrants and although the Hongkew Company was first on the ground, the Deluge men were the first to get water. The Mih-ho-loongs were delayed too, as their hose was all disconnected and lying in the Municipal yard drying. The Victorias played on the fire from the Creek side. The French Company did not work but lent their hose to the other companies. Two companies had some of their hose burst and doubts were expressed by many firemen that in the event of a prolonged fire their hose would not stand the strain. The property belonged Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co. and was insured, as were the contents of some of the houses. The fire is said to have been caused by a stove in an upper room of house No. 103, and at one time it was feared that three children had perished in the flames.

When a new man is sent as Consul to a port in China, the residents naturally are anxious to know something about his antecidents, who he is, where he comes from, what he has done to get office, etc. etc. Recognising this natural curiosity, some one has sent us anonymously from Tacoma a portrait with brief biography of Col. James Courtney Hixson, U.S. Consul and Judge of the Consular Court at Foochow, China. Of Scotch-Irish ancestry he was born at Preston, Georgia, on Christmas Day, 1863, and his spurs were won as Commandant of the University of Alabama, at Tuscaloosa. He is a lawyer and journalist by profession, being chief editor and co-proprietor of the *Union Springs Herald*, and he fought well for Cleveland in Alabama in the presidential campaign. His biography concludes with the following notice of his personal attractions—"Travels in his own country and in Europe have added a polish to his scholarly attainments and stamped him thoroughly a man of the world. Col. Hixson has a striking personality, and in any crowd he would attract attention, being of a splendid and massive *physique*—six feet tall, straight as an arrow, with a dark heavy moustache and military imperial, and the easy, graceful bearing of a gentleman of education and travel. He is a bachelor, and thereby, it is said, hangs a romantic tale that commenced in his school-boy days."

We have received from Mr. Merridew, an enterprising British resident at Boulogne-sur-mer a handy little pamphlet setting forth the exceptional advantages offered by that seaport as a place of residence and for the education of children. Time was when Boulogne enjoyed a rather shady reputation as the abode of gentlemen who for the time being were under a cloud so far as their native land was concerned, but however true this might have been in the days of Thackeray and Dickens, it has other claims on the visitor than the ease with which the Queen's writ can be evaded. Boulogne and the vicinity now boast quite a considerable and pleasant British community, and he whose good fortune it is to be able to leave the Far East and seek "the age of ease" can rest assured that in making his home at Boulogne he is selecting a place where his wants can be satisfied most moderately. There are excellent schools and colleges, and if scenes of greater gaiety are occasionally wished for, either London or Paris can be reached in 3½ hours.

Instead of the usual large chromo-lithograph, the Scottish Union and National Insurance Co., of which Sir Walter Scott was the first President and Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co. are the Shanghai agents, have sent us a tasteful scribbling diary with one month on a page, each page being headed with one or more pictures of places connected with the great poet and novelist. At the foot of each page is some interesting fact bearing on the Company, while on the back page is a brief history of it, from which we learn that its capital is £6,000,000, it has issued life policies amounting to about £25,000,000, of which £11,000 000 are now outstanding, and its invested funds amounted on the 31st of December last to £4,078,542.

From Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., the Shanghai agents, we have received a lion-headed calendar for 1894, issued by the Lion Fire Insurance Co., Ld.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ld., have sent us their most useful *sachet* calendar for 1894, distinguished by its containing a plan of the English Settlement, the phases of the moon in Shanghai civil time, and other useful local information. It is prettily got up, and nicely perfumed.

At the ballot yesterday for Chief and District Engineers of the Fire Department for 1894, the retiring officers were unanimously re-elected.

The Insurance Companies taking risks on Chinese property in the Settlement have decided to raise the rates of premium from 1st January next. Native hongs hitherto insured at 1 per cent. will be taken at 1½ per cent., and wood-fronted shops, formerly taken at 1½ per cent. will be charged 2 per cent. The reason for this step is that the Companies found it simply did not pay to continue the present inadequate rates. They have sustained heavy losses by recent fires, and as they are not benevolent institutions, Chinese traders can hardly expect them to carry on business without a fair return—at any rate they will not do so.

Professor Edward Caird, who holds the chair of Moral Philosophy in Glasgow University, was expected to succeed the late Dr. Jowett as Master of Balliol College, Oxford.

The great fire near the Old Bailey, London, on the 15th ult., broke out on the premises of the Crown Perfumery Co., and destroyed a large amount of warehouse property occupied by firms engaged in the book trade. A literal rain of fire fell for over an hour over the south-west part of the City, reaching as far as the Temple Gardens.

There seems to be a want of discretion on the part of the French police occasionally. On Christmas morning a gentleman hired a jinricsha to take him through the French concession but as the 'ricsha coolie had no licence, he was pounced upon by a French policeman. The foreigner went to the French Police Station to get him out but when he attempted to leave himself he was seized by the collar and put in a foul cell where he was detained an hour and a half, notwithstanding his request that a French gentleman, to whom he asked that his card should be sent, should be asked to come and bail him out.

Most of the vessels in port on Christmas Day were decorated with flags, while the men-of-war used evergreens for a similar purpose. H.M.S. *Porpoise* had a rope of evergreens from jibboom to stern with crowns and stars hanging between the masts. The *Porpoise* left here on Tuesday afternoon for Hongkong to pay off.

On arrival at Taku on the 17 h instant the *Peiping* found ice in the lower parts of the river and the Bar impassable against the ebb tide, but when the flood made she managed to cut through the ice though with great difficulty. The *Peiping* left Tongku at 8 a.m. on the 18th and Taku Bar at 11.30 a.m. and experienced light variable airs and fine weather to Chefoo. Left Chefoo on the 20th and experienced light N.W. winds and fine weather to port.

The Russian gunboat *Sivoutch* and the U.S.S. gunboat *Concord* have arrived here the former from Nagasaki on Sunday, and the latter from Hongkong on Saturday.

The following is a list of officers of the new U.S. flagship *Baltimore*:—Captain W. R. Bridgman, Commanding; Lieutenant Commander John P. Merrell; Lieutenants H. O. Rittenhouse, F. H. Holmes, A. E. Culver, G. H. Stafford, Edward Simpson; Ensigns G. N. Hayward. W. H. Buck, L. H. Everhart, R. R. Belknap, Jay A. Sypher, W. G. Macfarland; Naval Cadets H. H. Ward, E. L. Bissett, C. J. Long, E. H. Campbell, C. C. Fewell, G. L. Holsinger; Medical Inspector James M. Flint; Passed Assistant Surgeons P. H. Bryant, R. M. Kennedy; Paymaster Daniel A. Smith; Chief Engineer G. W. Strivers, Passed Assistant Engineer Robert G. Denig, Assistant Engineers Willis B. Day. Armin Hartrath; Naval Cadet (Engineer's Division) H. B. Price; 1st Lieutenant of Marines C. G. Long; Gunner C. B. Mcgruder; Carpenter Isaac Cooper; Pay Clerk James Schon.

A rather peculiar accident happened to a native cargo boat on Sunday. It appears that a steamer went over the Associated Wharves upper buoy, which coming up on the other side, caught the cargo boat and lifted it clean out of the water where it remained some time.

Silk shipped per *Oceanic* from Shanghai on the 18th ult. arrived at New York on the 21st instant.

The usual low water at this time of the year is being experienced in the Yangtze. At Hankow on Wednesday the register was

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6 ft., and in Bluff Channel, Hunter Island, 11 ft. 6 in.; at Kiukiang on Thursday the water mark was 8 ft. 2 in., at the upper end of Olyphant Island 9 ft. and lower end 11 ft., at upper end of Matung cut-off 11 ft. 6 in. and lower end 16 ft. 6 in. The *Ella* got ashore off Olyphant Island but has since arrived here, while the *Tehhsing* grounded in Matung cut-off. She arrived here on Tuesday.

The M.M. steamer *Melbourne*, with the French mail, left Hongkong for Shanghai yesterday at 2 p.m.

The *Thames*, with the English mail, left Singapore at 4 p.m. on Wednesday for Hongkong and Shanghai.

The *Glenshiel* reports passing the *Clan Buchanan* off Chapel Island. The latter vessel left Kobe on the 12th of December for New York.

The R.M.S. *Empress of China* arrived at Kobe on Wednesday at 9.30 a.m., and left for Nagasaki at 10 p.m. She may be expected to reach Woosung to-morrow, about 7 p.m., and will be despatched for Hongkong on Sunday, at daylight. The tender *Samson* will leave the P. &O. jetty at 2 p.m. to-morrow, to convey passengers and mails to Woosung.

Two more steamers, the *W. Cores de Vries* and *Whaou*, were ashore in the Yangtze on Monday. The former was at Olyphant Island and the latter at Dove Point.

On the way down from Hankow, when about 5 miles above Tungchow, the *Kiangfoo* sighted a capsized junk with three men clinging to it. It was blowing a strong N.W. wind at the time but the steamer was stopped, a boat lowered and the men taken off their junk.

At the British Police Court on Tuesday John Loper, belonging to the *Asia*, was fined $5 or ten days' imprisonment for fighting and creating a disturbance in Boone Road, and for carrying a sheath knife within the limits of the Settlements. Arthur Colline, belonging to the *Gulf of Genoa*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Boone Road and damaging a police helmet to the amount of $3. He was fined $3 and ordered to pay for the damage to the helmet, or in default to be imprisoned for ten days.

Mr. B. Ruttunjee writes in his share report of the 21st inst. :—A dull, dragging, monotonous year comes to a close with brighter and more cheering prospects than any one ever expected. Easier money accommodation in Hongkong is said to have caused considerable movement in some of the principal stocks there, and in sympathy with the better feeling in the Colony our market, in many instances, has rallied appreciably. Investors who have limited their operations to the Marine Insurance stocks have no cause of complaint, but a more general experience is one of disappointment. Why the Hongkong Bank shares should have declined some 15% from the highest price quoted for them is still inexplicable, considering the fine business the Bank is said to have done. Shanghai is all the poorer from the awful collapse of Mining Companies and the shrinkage in the value of Bank of China scrip. But trade continues good, and it is to be hoped that the year's experience may not be found to have been of nothing worth. I beg to be allowed here and now to wish my constituents all the compliments of the Season and to express the hope that during 1894 they may, in a large degree, find compensation in the operations of the coming year. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation shares have changed hands at 96 per cent. prem., and are in demand at this rate. Insurances.—Marine—Cantons have advanced to $140, Unions to $89, Yangtzes to $62.50, Traders to $56 and $55, and Straits to $13.25; at all these rates sales are reported. North-Chinas have been sold at Tls. 135, and are now wanted at Tls. 137.50. Fire—Hongkongs were sold at $202.50, but receded again to $200, whilst Chinas have steadily advanced from $80 to $81.75. Shipping.—Steamboats have risen in value, and are now wanted at $29. Shanghai Tugs paid a further interim dividend of 3 per cent., making 7 per cent. for the year so far. Indo-Chinas have been in demand, and an advance of 33 per cent. on previous quotations has to be noted. Taku Tugs have been sold to Tientsin at Tsin Tls. 54 and 55. Cargo Boats.—Shanghais found buyers at Tls. 205, and again at Tls. 210, and Co-ops. advanced to Tls. 80. Wharves and Docks.—All stocks under this heading are quiet, the only business being in Farnhams at Tls. 97.50. Mining.—Sheridans have declined from Tls. 4 to Tls. 2 per share.—Lands.—Hongkongs have been sold at $55.50, and Shanghais are in demand at Tls. 29. Miscellaneous.—A few Gas shares were parted with at Tls. 197.50, and Waterworks declined to Tls. 157.50, but soon recovered, and shares changed hands at Tls. 158.50. Sugars remain unchanged. Major Bros. are offering at Tls. 35. Their report to hand shows a profit of some Tls. 16,400, which the Directors recommend should be carried forward to provide funds for the working of new departments. Ice shares were sold at Tls. 105. This Company has also issued their report recommending a dividend of 9 per cent. for the year.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 22nd inst.—Mr. W. E. Hunt, the new U.S. Consul at Hongkong, arrived at his post on the 17th inst.—The Belilios Public School for girls was inaugurated on the 18th.—The *Memnon*, running between Hongkong and British North Borneo, had arrived at Singapore with her shaft broken. —The Raub Co. has declared a dividend of 6d. a share.—The accounts of the Hongkong City Hall show a balance at credit on the 30th of June last of $2,261.19, in addition to $10,000 on fixed deposit in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.—Dr. Noble has been appointed liquidator of the defunct Steam Launch Co., Ld.—Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes is not to be transferred to another colony, after all.—The new U.S. flagship *Baltimore* arrived at Colombo on the 25th ult.—The celebration of the 25th year of the reign of King Chulalongkorn began at Bangkok on the 4th and was to continue for a week.—The Balmoral Gold Mining Company is to be reconstructed in Hongkong.

From Hongkong evening papers of the 22nd we learn that a very excellent show, called D'Arc's Marionettes, had arrived in the colony.—News had come by wire that the *Carl Friedrich*, the kerosene ship which was abandoned by her crew and reported a total loss, had been taken into Labuan.—The winners at the First Day of the Gymkhana Meeting, on the 22nd, were as follows :—

Foot Race. ¼-mile—Pte. Steventon, S.L.I.

The Mistletoe Cup, ¾-mile—Captain Thomas's *The Don*.

Tilting at the Ring and Tent Pegging—Capt. Thomas, nominated by Mrs. Jerrard.

Obstacle Race, ½-mile—Lance-Sergeant Gittins, S.L.I.

Evergreen Steeplechase, Black Rock once round and in—Shropshire Light Infantry's *Light Bob*.

The Christmas Cup, ½-mile—Mr. Kramer's *Lucinsland*, after a dead heat with Mr. McPie's *Swift*.

At the meeting of the Hongkong Ladies' Benevolent Society on the 22nd, it was mentioned that the working expenses for the year were only $24.50.—The case at Amoy between Messrs. Lapraik, Cass & Co. (Mr. Leach, Q.C.), and a Chinese firm (Mr. Francis, Q.C.), was won by the former.

We take the following notes from the *Daily Press* :—

The *Centurion*, the new flagship for the China station, is expected to leave England at the end of February.

Mr. R. C. Leigh's yacht *White Heather*, which visited the Far East about a couple of years ago, is again on its way out *vid* Rio, Cape Horn, San Francisco, and Japan, then homewards through the Canal.

The P. & O. Company's steamer *Formosa* from Hongkong to London, put into Portsmouth harbour on 10th November owing to stress of weather, and also to renew her supply of coal. She landed a small draft of homeward-bound troops.

The *Prussen* on her last homeward trip grounded in the Canal. She went aground on the bank, on the 8th instant, at Section Small, Bitter Lakes, but was got off the following day after unloading, and was to proceed as soon as the cargo was reshipped.

Lieutenant Usher, R.N., of H.M.S. *Esk*, who was invalided home from Hankow suffering from melancholia and had to be landed at Singapore from the P. & O. steamer *Canton* and sent to the General Hospital for medical observation and treatment, has, we learn from the *Free Press*, been sent to the lunatic asylum.

A copy of the report made by Mr. Carl Georg at the private meeting of the Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited, has been supplied to us. It is very technical in terms, but speaks in the most hopeful strain of the prospects of the Company provided sufficient capital is raised to work the property properly. Nearly 5,000 of the 19,000 new shares were subscribed for at the meeting on Saturday.

At the fifty-third annual meeting of the P. & O. Company, which was to be held on the 12th inst., the directors, after providing for the usual dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. on the preferred stock, would recommend a dividend on the deferred stock of 6½ per cent. for the six months, making with the interim dividend of 3½ per cent. paid in June, a total distribution on the deferred stock of 10 per cent. for the year.

The Straits Government have ordered the Police to release from custody the steamer *Siam*, which was recently seized owing to contraband chandu to the value of $2,200 being found on board. The quartermaster who smuggled the opium has been sentenced to twelve weeks' imprisonment. The Government have released the vessel on a bond of security being provided by the owner, and the Government for the present defer their decision as to whether the vessel shall be confiscated.

Says a contemporary—Captain Bayley, P. & O. agent at Colombo, has just returned to Ceylon. The most important item of news he brings out is that the P. & O. Company are building a new 19 knot steamer called the *Caledonia*, which is for the Australian line, and which will be ready in six months' time. It will be 1,000 tons larger than the *Australia*. He does not think it likely that the P. & O.'s China fleet will be bettered in the near future, notwithstanding Mr. Henniker Heaton's recent denunciations.

The other morning a British vessel was seen entering the harbour with the ensign inverted, which is the usual signal of "Mutiny on board." Immediately this was noticed, a coup'e of men-of-war's cutters put out, full of blue-jackets, and dashed across the harbour towards where the new-comer had anchored. Perhaps it was a little Regatta enthusiasm, or perhaps it was purely the spirit of duty that stimulated them, but anyhow a most exciting race ensued—in fact there was a narrow escape of a bad smash as they reached the vessel. There, the officers and some of the crew were at the taffrail, shouting themselves hoarse and beckoning to the two boats to come on faster. At last, half-dead with their exertions, yet eager for the fray with the mutineers, the tars tumbled on board, and were warmly complimented on their rowing pace; it must have blown them badly—would they have a drink? "A what! Where is this mutiny?" gasped the Naval officer in charge. "Mutiny? There's no mutiny on this ship—we are all the best of friends," was the reply. "Then why did you want

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us? You yelled loud enough!" "We thought it was Hongkong Regatta day, and we were cheering the winners." Staggered for a moment, Mr. R. N. pointed inquiringly to the reversed ensign, still flaunting its appeal for aid that was not wanted. "Oh, damn that boy! He always puts it up wrong if we don't watch him, simply out of stupidity. Let's all go and punch his head!"—*Hongkong Telegraph.*

We have received Japan papers with dates from Yokohama and Nagasaki to the 20th, and Kobe the 21st inst.—The *Miowera* has been floated off the reef at Honolulu, and has not suffered much damage.—The Imperial Diet is so unsatisfactory that it was prorogued by the Emperor on the 19th for ten days.—The *Oopack* has been renamed *Nagoya Maru*.—The twice-sunken torpedo-boat has been raised and towed to Yokosuka.—Various accidents to small Japanese steamers with long names are reported.—Seven steamers now run between Kobe and Yokohama in competition with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.—The *City of New York* is going to pieces.—A large sugar refinery is to be established in Japan, probably at Moji.—The Danish bark *Adolphe Harboe*, which left New York on the 26th of May, arrived at Yokohama on the 15th inst. with 36,480 cases of kerosene oil. Owing to an outbreak of scurvy, which carried off the master, she had to put in to Timor for fresh provisions, and she encountered a hurricane in which she had to jettison some of her cargo, and used 200 cases to calm the angry waves.—Mr. Hoshi Toru having been expelled, the House of Representatives chose Mr. Kusunuto Masataka, the Vice-President, as President, his name with those of the two next in order being sent to the Emperor for selection.—The *Japan Herald* hears "that a rumour is current in Nagasaki and Kobe that the *Japan Mail* has changed hands, it being alleged that a Shanghai purchaser has been found for it."—There was a large fire in Hiogo on the 16th in which several godowns and their contents were destroyed. They were insured in the Phœnix and Commercial Union Offices for $75,000; the Manchester Fire for $10,000; the New Zealand and Imperial for $20,000; and the Royal for $20,000.

The *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 16th says:—The *John F. Robbins*, while leaving Hakodate this week for San Francisco, sulphur laden, got ashore on Mussel Point, opposite Hakodate Head. There are several miles of sand in the vicinity, and it was hoped that the ship was on a soft place and would be got off, but a telegram was received here yesterday announcing that the vessel has been abandoned, her cargo being under water. This would lead to the supposition that she had got upon a reef in the neighbourhood of the point.

The *Japan Herald* quotes some rather unusual comments from a Yokohama paper, the *Niroku Shimpo*. It says:—"There is a way to reform the extreme self-will of foreign merchants. There is a means of correcting the arrogance of foreign merchants. This is no other than to pursue the way of righteousness and integrity one's self. If a man be right and just, he will feel no reproach to his conscience in blaming others who shall deviate from the way of honesty. It is very well for Yokohama merchants to pursue a strong policy against foreign merchants, but if they are themselves guilty of fraud and dishonesty, the strong policy will not be worth anything." The paper then goes on to accuse a Japanese firm of defrauding two foreign firms there through the connivance of some of the *employés*, and then says it is to be hoped that the rumours are unfounded, but if they are true, it says that it will not hesitate to expose the fraud.

The *Japan Mail* gives the following summary of trade in Yokohama for the week ending the 16th ult.:—The Import trade remains much as last reported, yarns being slow of sale, "singles" especially, and the demand for "doubles" has not been large. Shirtings are more or less neglected, fancies and woollens being in much the same case, and holders all round are firm, declining offers at reduced prices. The metal market remains unaltered, the small stocks being firmly held, and there is nothing to report but a few contracts on a limited scale. The activity recently noted in kerosene has been fully maintained, and all the transactions that have been put through have commanded full rates. The stock has been increased by the arrival of two cargoes of American oil, yet is anything but large notwithstanding. Russian oil is also in good demand, and the stock is not great. There has been a fair trade in sugar, browns being unchanged in value and taken in fairly large parcels. Whites are also in good request at late rates. The silk trade has not been extensive, settlements only amounting to 1,000 piculs, of which over 100 bales were direct shipments. For the small daily business that resulted in this total, prices were well maintained, and in certain kinds holders succeeded in obtaining an advance. The stock is well kept up, arrivals promptly replacing the parcels taken, and there are still over 15,000 piculs on this market. Only a small business has been done in waste, and the stock increases, but holders will not give way, and the trade is consequently restricted. Tea has seen another dull week, and such demand as exists is checked by holders, who will make no concessions whatever. Exchange has receded slightly from the rates of a week ago, and closes with an element of uncertainty.

The *Siam Observer* of the 8th instant, says:—A serious accident occurred on the Scottish Oriental steamer *Phranang* on Tuesday night, about 8 o'clock. In common with the rest of the vessels in harbour the steamer displayed strings of lanterns, etc., in honour of the Jubilee festivities, and the first and second officers supervised the discharge of a number of rockets. The supply of detonators was at length exhausted and Captain Watton, who was present, mentioned that "that would do," and went aft. The mates—Messrs. Laurie and Philips—were desirous of letting off the last two, however, and accordingly set to work to ignite the bomb with gunpowder. The projectile, it may be explained, is fired from a socket in the deck, and when properly fired is shattered in the air by a small charge of gun-cotton. The explosion of the gunpowder in the socket caused the gun cotton to go off prematurely, and the wooden casing of the rocket together with the copper tube inside, was driven in all directions. Mr. Philips, the second officer, was thrown down with great force, and sustained terrible injuries, there being over a score of wounds on his body, in addition to the concussion of his brain. Mr. Laurie escaped with a few cuts, though he also required medical attendance, and it is possible that he may be unable to leave with the ship to-day. The deck and bulwark were damaged to some extent. Dr. Deuntzer spent some three hours stitching up poor Philips' wounds and afterwards Dr. Hays took charge. His recovery is very doubtful, however, as he lies in a comatose condition.—There is later news to the effect that Mr. Philips is recovering.

Writing a little while ago on steam navigation, we mentioned that the first regularly built steamer to cross the Atlantic was the *Royal William*, built at Quebec in the winter of 1830-31. We learn from the *Marine Journal* that she was also the first steamer to engage in actual war. After her arrival in London in 1833 she was chartered by the Portuguese government to transport troops intended for the service of the late Dom Pedro to Brazil. Returning to London, she was sold to the Spanish Government, by the latter converted into a cruiser and employed against Don Carlos in the civil war of 1836, thus being the first steamer to fire a hostile shot.

"There's wan t'ing," said Mr. Dolan, reflectively, as he glanced at a laundry sign, "that oi must rishpect the Chinese fur."

"Phwat's that?" asked his companion.

"Fur learnin' to spake their own language."—*Washington Star.*

We take these notes from the *London and China Express* of the 17th ult.:—

In the tea market there is a marked falling off in the demand, though prices have kept steady, and for the lower grades of tea firm, as the consumption is largely on such, to meet the competition among retailers for the low priced canister. Finest tea commands satisfactory prices, and it is the intermediate qualities that find it difficult to hold up. The pressure of Indian tea is passing, and in the near future the import of Ceylon tea will begin to augment.

A conference of the committee of the Free Silver Senators and Congressmen was held in Washington on the 1st inst., General Warner, the president of the American Bimetallic League, in the chair. The opinion was generally expressed that after the elections in 1894 a majority favourable to free coinage could be returned of such dimensions as could carry the free coinage of silver over the veto of President Cleveland. It was agreed that communication should be opened with the Bimetallic League in England; so that the extreme agricultural distress and the fall of prices in the United States which have followed from the recent anti-silver legislation should be brought before the notice of the English public, and, if possible, an exchange of public speakers arranged, in order to internationalise the issue the more rapidly.

Sir David Barbour, in the course of his evidence at Calcutta before the Royal Commission on opium, was asked, "Have you any opinion with regard to the physical effects of the consumption of opium in China?" He replied: "I have not been in China myself, but I have spoken to people who have been there, and in particular to Mr. James, now Commissioner in Sind, who travelled for some time in Manchuria. His opinion was that many of the people who consumed opium were remarkably fine men physically, who took opium as a matter of course, without its seeming to do them any harm. I think he said he had come across a few people who had suffered from taking opium. The conclusion I have come to is that there are cases of the abuse of opium, but, on the other hand, that the consumption of opium is often beneficial. Another friend of mine visited the tin mines at Singapore where Chinamen are employed and he found that while the hospital was full of the other workmen, the Chinese kept their health, and this result was ascribed to the use of opium."

The *Bureau Veritas Monthly List*, published on the 1st of November, of wrecks and casualties recorded in September last, announces that 90 sailing vessels were reported as totally lost; 41 by stranding, 3 by collision, 3 by fire; while 18 foundered, 6 were abandoned, 15 were condemned, and 4 were missing. No less than 298 sailing vessels were damaged; 77 by stranding, 54 by collision, 6 by fire, 67 by leaks, and 94 by stress of weather. The steamers totally lost were 14; 9 by stranding, 2 by collision, 2 by fire; while one foundered. The steamers damaged were 186; 56 by stranding, 40 by collision, 15 by fire, 3 by leaks, 22 by stress of weather; while 50 reported injury to their engines or boilers. Among the steamers in the list we notice the *Feitung*, coast-Shanghai, damaged by collision on arrival; the *Hankow*, New York-Shanghai, arrived with engines damaged; the *Hsinchi*, Shanghai-Tientsin, arrived damaged by collision; the *Kungwo*,

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Shanghai-Ichang, stranded and damaged, near arrival; the *Pekin*, Ningpo-Shanghai, damaged by collision on arrival; the *Steel*, at Shanghai, damaged by fire in port; the *Whaou*, Hankow-Shanghai, collided on arrival, got damaged; the *Woosung*, Swatow-Shanghai, arrived damaged, having been ashore; the *Yechigo Maru*, coast-Shanghai, and the *Yungping*, Shanghai-Tientsin, arrived, being damaged by collision.

A few weeks ago, says a home paper, Mr. Stead was appealing to the world to collect half-a-dozen really first-class drunkards and lend them him to experiment upon with a patent remedy. Of course, Mr. Stead got his interesting sufferers, and very bad cases they were, he says. One patient drove up in a cab "thinking that it was full of snakes," another "had almost to be parboiled before he was clean enough" to be remedied, and others were sodden with gin, drenched with whisky, and given at odd times to morphia and other fascinating and deleterious "extras." All this was, from the experimenter's point of view, highly satisfactory; if he could cure them he could obviously cure anything in the shocking-example line. Well, Mr. Stead tells us that these unfortunate and degraded creatures are quite cured now. They were shut up for a month in the "furnished house of a professional gentleman near the British Museum," and the "craving for drink, so far as can be seen from the close observation of the cases under treatment, is"—*teste* Stead—"absolutely dead." So far, says the *St. James's Gazette*, this sounds very satisfactory. But one naturally feels that the story needs enquiring into a trifle more closely. It was obviously much to the advantage of the discoverer of the "remedy," who refuses to divulge the "secret of its manufacture," to get Mr. Stead's testimonial and huge gratis advertisement; yet Mr. Stead seems to have thought he had done his duty as self-constituted investigator and judge, by visiting the "furnished house" at intervals of ten days or so and "interviewing" the patients. He tells us it is true that "a fully qualified man" was in charge; but if he means to imply by that that a man with an English medical qualification conducted the experiment, we must beg leave to doubt his statement, since the "remedy" is a secret one. Even Mr. Stead only knows that it is "extremely bitter . . . and acts as a very powerful tonic;" and the public only knows that Mr. Stead thinks that some persons supposed to be habitual drunkards have been permanently cured because he has not seen them "illuminated" between Oct. 12 and Oct. 28, and that he believes this result to have been brought about by a mysterious "remedy," which he further believes to have been administered to them at intervals of three hours, night and day, for some time. The evidence that satisfies Mr. Stead does not require to be over-elaborate; we can only say with Dr. Johnson on a famous occasion, "Sir, we want more."—Mr. Stead, it should have been mentioned by the *St. James's Gazette*, also stated that men who had taken the remedy a year ago, were still free from the craving for liquor at the time of his experiment.

Those who had occasion to cross the Atlantic fifteen or twenty years ago, will remember how often the steamers then in the trade, which were only of moderate size, were detained at the bar of the Mersey, and it is interesting to read what has now been done by the employment of dredgers of sufficient power; nor is there any reason to suppose that the Woosung Bar could not be as effectually treated. *Transport*, in its issue of the 3rd of November, says:—

The Marine Committee of the Mersey Docks Board have asked for a grant of £20,000 to continue the work of dredging the bar, the sum of £10,000 having already been spent. From the particulars which were given by Mr. G. B. Crow at the last meeting, it appears that the operations have so far been attended with complete success. The bar has always been a source of expense and trouble to Liverpool, but now that the Board have taken the matter earnestly in hand, there are strong hopes that the worst has been seen. How much improvement has been made will be seen when it is stated that at low water springs there is an average of about 21 feet, or a minimum of about 20 feet. The huge Atlantic liners will now be able to cross the bar at almost all states of the tide. In order to maintain and increase the depth the sum of £20,000 will be required, which is calculated to last until the end of June next. A passage about 1,000 feet wide has been dredged through the bar, and in some parts there is a depth of 23 feet.

It has been found that on a low water neap tide, a 10-foot tide, there is on the bar at dead low water 28½ feet, so that any ship drawing 26 or 27 feet can come in, at dead low water, on a 10-foot tide. On a tide of 11 feet, there is 28 feet of water on the bar at dead low tide; on a 12-foot tide, there is 27 feet of water; and so on, diminishing six inches to a foot by every foot of increase of rise in the tide. There is thus on a 19-foot tide, which is about the highest, 21½ feet of water on the bar at dead low water. This means that any ship drawing 20 feet of water can go up the channel without regard to the tide at all. With regard to the dredging operations, it was stated that the *Brancker* carried away, in one week, no less than 120,000 tons of sand, and it was said that, with a full week, she will be able to carry away 150,000 tons, working night and day. Up to the present time, the total expenditure, leaving out the question of the cost of the *Brancker*, has been £28,166 since the commencement of the operations; £7,000 of this, however, may be charged to capital account, or to the cost of fitting up two hopper barges, so that the total for working expenses, repairs, maintenance, and so on, amounts to about £21,000.

There appeared recently in the *Melbourne Age* a letter from a correspondent signing himself "C. P. Hodges, Mandarin, Chinese Empire," taking the part of the Chinese in Victoria, and showing how valuable their labour has been to the colony. In reference to the complaint that the Chinese have driven the English carpenters out of the furniture trade, Mr. Hodges says:—

As to the furniture trade the Sweating Board is enquiring into that; but let me say that I do not think "Colonist" can claim the 42 years' experience I have had. The old stock do not go about wringing their hands, attributing their own troubles to the successful industry of others. There is nothing to prevent the European furniture maker holding his own against his Chinese competitor; but he will not be self-reliant. He calls on Jupiter for a boss, a shop, a log and the sure and certain hope of a cheque on Saturday. As to the laundrymen, what do they which European women cannot do? Two or more Chinese combine, issue a washing price list and wait for customers, who feel assured that when an article is promised it will be ready. Cannot a few European women do the same without waiting for a ladies' committee to get subscriptions from the public wherewith to buy the washing paraphernalia? Again lack of self-reliance. The Chinese laundrymen are a godsend to the flotsam and jetsam of society, the one-shirted and two-shirted men. Who can "Colonist" be that he so glibly calls the Chinese "heathen?" There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who art thou that judgest thy brother? If to worship that God, who I have been taught is a spirit, without body or passions, is to be a heathen, then am I one. Possibly, "Colonist" is; certainly the Chinese are. "Colonist" should leave this subject alone. Let me tell him in a line, Chinese philosophy covers the whole ground of Christian morality and is not without the thunderings of a Sinai and the plains of a Canaan. The divergence comes when we speculate on that within the veil. But I remember the proverb, "Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar amongst wheat with a pestle yet will not his foolishness depart from him."

A Hyderabad correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* mentions that a duty of five per cent. is being levied by the authorities of that State on imported silver. The State of Jodhpur has also imposed a duty on that metal, amounting to seven-and-a-half per cent. The mints of the Native States are coining silver to the aggregate amount of a lakh a day. Some three crores of hoarded silver are believed to have found their way back into circulation since the closing of the Imperial mints, chiefly in payment for an equivalent amount of imported silver. The imports have at present practically ceased, but the fact that the rupee has now a higher value than an equal weight of silver will tend to bring out more of the hoarded coin. Hitherto the people of India have put by some five or six crores of rupees per annum. Since the closure of the mints this process has been reversed, and the rupees are coming into circulation. It is certain that a very large amount of Company's rupees of the earlier years of Her Majesty's reign have found their way into general circulation. For the most part they appear just as if they were newly issued from the mints, bearing no sign of wear or usage. Owing to the considerable amount of hoarded money which has come into the market, it is not expected that Sir David Barbour's measures will force the rupee up to or beyond one and fourpence in the coming season. After a period sufficient to establish an equilibrium by absorbing the silver in excess of the usual requirements which has been imported since May last, the currency scheme will probably realise the expectations with which it was launched.

In reference to the clause in the Employers' Liability Bill specially mentioned in the Reuter's telegram published by us on the 22nd, *Transport* of the 10th ult. writes:—

The "contracting-out" clause of the Employers' Liability Bill, which has excited no little controversy in the country, is likely to produce a sharp conflict in the House. Mr. Walter McLaren is determined that his new clause, which is designed to permit workmen, in certain cases, to make private arrangements with their employers, such as those which have now for some time been in existence in connection with the London and North-Western Railway Company shall receive full consideration. This Company, it will be remembered, has established a kind of mutual insurance to which the directors liberally contribute, which provides the men in case of accidents with better and surer compensation than Mr. Asquith's measure can possibly do. A large proportion of the Company's employés have expressed their desire to abide by the present arrangement, but this the Home Secretary will not hear of. The Bill will be a good one for the lawyers. When workmen have to sue their masters for compensation for accidents, statistics show that, even if they win, the money they gain is nearly all swallowed up in legal expenses. Moreover, there is, it appears, a certain class of solicitors who make their living out of "compensation" lawsuits, or in other words, feed on the unfortunate working-class litigants. A carefully managed insurance scheme, like that of the London and North-Western Railway, gets rid of all this waste of money and practical denial of justice. Mr. Chamberlain, who is now on his way home from the United States and the West Indies, will probably have something to say on this phase of the question before the Bill becomes law.

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Miscellaneous Articles.

THE HAWAIIAN CONSPIRACY.

28th Dec.

When Admiral Skerrett, now commanding the U.S. Asiatic squadron, called on Mr. Tracy, Secretary for the Navy in President Harrison's Cabinet, before going to Hawaii, the Admiral asked the Secretary what was the policy of the government about the annexation of Hawaii to the United States, reminding him that the government had formerly been opposed to it. The Secretary calmly informed the Admiral that "the wishes of the government had changed. They will be glad to annex Hawaii." Now the wishes of the government have changed again, and this is no doubt the reason why Admiral Irwin was somewhat suddenly sent to replace Admiral Skerrett. President Cleveland being an honest and straightforward man, and having a man of equal capacity and integrity as Secretary of State, has determined to undo as far as he can the great wrong that was done to Queen Liliuokalani by President Harrison and the politicians who really led him while they were supposed to be his subordinates. It has all come out now that the deposition of Queen Liliuokalani and the establishment of a provisional government which was to vote Hawaii to the States, was the result of a conspiracy organised by Mr. Blaine and the sugar-planters, and carried out by Mr. Stevens, editor of the *Kennebec Journal*, the old paper of Mr. Blaine, Mr. Stevens being sent as U.S. Minister to Hawaii for that purpose, and there assisted by the U.S. marines and bluejackets from the *Boston*, and sundry American residents and missionaries. In his letter to Congress accompanying the treaty of annexation on the 16th of February last, the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Foster, said that "the change of government (at Honolulu) was entirely unexpected, so far as this government was concerned," and that it was, "in fact, abrupt and unlooked for by the United States Minister." This was altogether a diplomatic fiction, not to use a harsher term, for from his arrival in the Islands in November, 1889, Mr. Stevens had been at work considering how he could promote their cession to the United States. His plans were matured in 1892, and early in that year he wrote to Mr. Blaine, being apparently anxious to have something in black and white from the Secretary of State on which he could rely if he got into trouble over the matter: "I desire to know how far the present minister and naval commander may deviate from established international rules and precedents in the contingencies indicated." In a later despatch he showed that he was formulating all the details of the annexation—and also showed that, as we wrote at the time, the revolution was a commercial speculation on behalf of the sugar planters; as he mentioned the desirability of granting them a bounty when the islands became American, and suggested that it "should be limited to six mills per pound, $12 per ton." The New York *Tribune* and the *Kennebec Journal* in the autumn of 1892 both—although they were not commenting on any recent news from Hawaii—simultaneously warned the American people to look out for some startling news from Honolulu. The *Tribune* wrote as follows two months before the revolution took place which was so "abrupt and unlooked for by the United States Minister:"

"Events are occurring in the Hawaiian Islands which should lead the American people seriously to consider the policy of forming a closer political tie with that interesting little kingdom. It is not in the nature of things for its present government to continue much longer. Indeed, the occasion might present itself at any moment when readjustments would be unavoidable. This will happen as well because of our influence as in spite of it. . . . We are fully and absolutely responsible only when Hawaii is constituted into American territory. . . . Hawaii must become American territory. But upon the conditions of annexation hang grave and far-reaching questions of foreign policy. In considering how to complete our sovereignty over Hawaii, we shall be considering also the future of other islands that are already commercial, and are rapidly becoming political, dependencies. American statesmen should be ready for this emergency. It may arise at any moment." We may pause for a moment to explain that the "other islands" referred to meant the West Indian islands.

At the very same time Mr. Stevens was sending home a confidential despatch urging "bold and vigorous measures for annexation." In fact, the evidence is overwhelming to support the charge of Mr. Gresham, the present Secretary of State, that the American Minister intrigued with a lot of other aliens to overthrow the constitutional government of Hawaii. Even then these aliens, lay and missionary, did not dare to move until they were assured over and over again that Mr. Stevens would have United States marines and bluejackets landed to support them. And the Minister was more eager and determined than the revolutionaries were, possibly because he knew that his diplomatic position shielded him from any personal injury. To quote from the New York *Nation*, from which we have derived the facts we have mentioned:—

"According to the testimony of Mr. Wunderberg, whom the annexationist papers declare to be a man 'of strict integrity and high reputation,' the committee of safety, of which Mr. Wunderberg was himself a member, tried to get Stevens to delay landing the *Boston's* troops until their plans were in better shape. They sent a delegation to him, headed by Mr. Thurston, for that purpose, but it soon brought back Stevens's Napoleonic answer: 'Gentlemen, the troops of the *Boston* will land at five o'clock this afternoon, whether you are ready or not."

Two things on which the plotters had not calculated interfered with the final success of this sordid conspiracy. President Cleveland succeeded President Harrison, and the English refused to be stirred by the proposed annexation. As soon as President Cleveland came into power, he sent a special commissioner, Mr. Blount, to investigate matters at Honolulu, and Mr. Blount's report has laid bare the whole plot; but President Cleveland could not undo the work of Minister Stevens and President Harrison but for the fact that England fortunately sent no protest to Mr. Harrison against the intended annexation. The conspirators were quite sure that England would be dreadfully alarmed at this extension of the power of the United States in the Pacific, and would at once write to ask the United States to withdraw from the Islands. This would certainly excite the spread-eagleism of the American Press, and President Cleveland could have done nothing, if it could have been hinted that he was doing anything at the dictation of England. We owe another debt to Lord Rosebery for this, that he was too cool-headed to be drawn into this snare. England showed no anxiety whatever about the fate of the Islands and certainly no intention to annex them herself, and the Anglophobia which dominates a part of the American Press and people, and on which the conspirators had relied, failed them in the hour of need. President Cleveland, to his own credit and that of the American people, is doing an act of justice in giving Queen Liliuokalani the chance of regaining her throne with the consent of her people.

THE WOOSUNG BAR.

29th Dec.

Mr. Max Goebel, Consul-General for Belgium, who is himself a Civil Engineer by profession, has written a memorandum on the Woosung Bar which has been adopted by the Consular Body in Shanghai and transmitted to the Diplomatic Body at Peking. A summary of it cannot but be interesting to all our readers, for there is no one of them to whom the improvement of the water approach to Shanghai is not a vital question.

After mentioning that the Taotai, under instructions from the Viceroy at Nanking, had asked the Consular Body to assure him that Sir Charles Hartley is a competent person, which the Consuls had done, Mr. Goebel goes on to explain that invaluable as Sir Charles Hartley's report will undoubtedly be, he will be greatly assisted if the scattered documents existing on the subject, which form the history of the question, are revised and co-ordinated in preparation for his arrival

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on the scene. In his despatch of the 20th March, 1893, the Taotai said of the Bar: "It is constantly shifting owing to natural causes." Now, the problem before Sir Charles Hartley will be greatly facilitated by collecting the report of the Dutch engineers who studied the question in 1874-75, and the records that have been kept by the Harbour Master's department for the last twenty years, etc., etc. Whether Sir Charles Hartley comes or not, it is indispensable that the proposed history should be drawn up, including in it the natural causes mentioned by the Taotai, and the accidental causes, all of which have been carefully observed for twenty years. It is no doubt necessary, to move the Chinese to action, to have the *prestige* of such a name as that of the Engineer proposed, but it is obvious that he must base his opinion more on the reports of those who have studied the subject on the spot for years, than on his hasty observations made at a single visit to the port. Mr. Goebel therefore submits the following proposition :—

"The Consular Body requests the Inspector-General of Customs to have collected in a methodical form, and if possible published, all the observations gathered as to the Woosung Bar and its periodical changes, accidental or permanent, by the technical department of the Customs, from its origin up to the present day."

If Sir Charles comes, he will positively need this information : if he should not come, it will be enough, if it is published, to evoke from Europe and America scientific solutions of the problem, and, probably, propositions to deal with it accompanied by all the required guarantees. It must be presumed that the Imperial Government is prepared to face the expense necessary for the development of the leading port in China. Probably the financial criterion of the deepening of the Woosung Bar resides in the tonnage dues, the amount of which is seriously compromised by the present condition of this obstruction. It will be necessary to put aside for some years the whole or part of these dues to provide for the improvement and maintenance of the channel. The contract with the parties who undertake the work would be a conditional one, payment depending on the creation and maintenance of a channel of a certain depth; and if the dredging that has already been done had been carried out under the stimulus of a forfeit it might not have been so ineffectual as it was. It is quite possible to erect on the banks of the river groins that will force the current to itself wash out the sand to the required width and depth, and prevent the Bar from growing again enough to be an injury to navigation. That is why it is desirable that the experience already gained should be brought under the cognisance of competent men.

So far Mr. Goebel. It is certain that there must be many engineers in Europe and America, perhaps in China, competent to create and maintain an adequate channel at Woosung, if they are given a free hand and sufficient funds. But the advantage of selecting Sir Charles Hartley is, that there is no higher authority to whom the Chinese Government could appeal, and that his experience of similar work not only puts him in a position to give the best opinion on the subject, but also to say about what the cost of the necessary operations should be. Mr. Goebel's suggestion that all the previous literature on the subject should be collected and reduced to a connected history before Sir Charles arrives, is a very excellent one, but the course that he proposes is not absolutely necessary. The studies made by the Dutch engineers, and the records preserved in the Harbour Master's department here would, of course, be put at once at the disposition of Sir Charles, and he would certainly have opportunities of learning the views of professional men here who have studied the subject and have formed what he may find to be very valuable opinions on it. When it was proposed by Mr. F. B. Forbes over thirteen years ago, and agreed to in a large public meeting, that funds should be raised for the conservancy of the river by the imposition of wharfage dues, the proposer pointed out that the scheme should not be confined to the Woosung Bar, but should extend to the whole river, from Tungkadoo to the Yangtze. We hope that Sir Charles Hartley when he comes will impress this on the Chinese authorities. The Harbour Master does what he can for the conservancy of the river, but his authority is uncertain and the funds at his disposal obviously insufficient, as is shown by the fact, which seems almost incredible, that there is not a single buoy or mark to guide vessels between here and Gough Island. The community offered in 1880 to provide the funds necessary to establish and maintain a Conservancy Board for the river, making only the condition that the commercial community should have a representative on the Board; and we have no doubt that Sir Charles Hartley will recognise, and we trust he will succeed in making the Chinese recognise, that the whole river from Shanghai to the Yangtze, as well as the Woosung Bar, demands the constant attention of a permanent qualified Board of Conservators.

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Reviews.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

(FOR THE WEEK ENDING 17TH OF NOV.)

The Matabele War takes up, of course, a large portion of the papers under notice, and it is somewhat satisfactory to see that the majority in Parliament does not follow Mr. Labouchere in looking upon the action of the Chartered Company as infamous brigandage. Our colonial empire has been built up too often by the methods of Mr. Rhodes. It is true that the slaughter of the Matabele in the so-called battles in which they attacked the lagers of the whites, has the air of a massacre, but this is inevitable. As it is pointed out, "it is possible to shoot a great many natives before they reach the lager where the white men are entrenched. But if they are not shot, and that immediately, there will not be many white men left to tell the tale. As Mr. Buxton put it, if there is not a 'massacre' on one side, there will be a 'massacre' on the other." General Maxim is a necessary evil in dealing with Fuzzy-wuzzy and his kind. The best estimate of "The Man of the Moment: Mr. Rhodes: the Napoleon of South Africa" that we have seen is in the current number of the *Westminster Budget*, by Mr. F. E. Garrett. He makes plain the masterful and capable nature of the man, who has shown himself equally strong in finance, in politics, and in politico-finance. He has united the diamond interests; he has united the British Colonies and the Dutch Republics; he founded "the British South Africa Company with its union in a common cause of Royal Dukes and company promoters, British gold-diggers and land-hungry Boers, President Kruger, King Lobengula, and Queen Victoria." While he is no philanthropist, he "can certainly boast of having done more to give comfortable, decent, and useful lives to South African 'boys' than the whole Aborigines Protection Society put together." But there is another side to his character :—

The unscrupulous side of Mr. Rhodes—it certainly does exist—is to my mind the direct outcome of the atmosphere of colonial finance in which he has grown up and made his career. Speculation always goes with sharp practice, even in an old country, where money is not everything nor success in money the key to every other door, social and political. In a new country, and especially one of gold and diamonds, all this is more so. In Kimberley and Johannesburg it is not thought necessary to dissimulate admiration for a successful swindle, and men take credit for dodges which here they would hesitate to attribute to an acquaintance. Of course this reacts on politics and public life. Mr. Rhodes, like the late Sir John Macdonald, like Pitt in his day, honest himself, tolerates something less than honesty in others. He condescends to bad tools when he cannot find good, and covers himself with a kind of naïve cynicism. "My *friend!*" he protested once when taxed with the jobbery of a political associate. "I don't recognise that character. There are people that use you, and there are people that you use. This was a man I used—and there's an end of it." "The only thing I ever regretted in my life was putting myself under an obligation." Imagine a man to whom money is not an object working on these lines among men to whom it is. He will go far. And, apart altogether from money, you can do much in modern politics on the "swap-principles-all-round" system. Only it will be very good for Mr. Rhodes's immortal soul to meet at some early date somebody with whom he can in nowise "deal."

The next topic of the day, one of even more pressing interest to the English people in England last November, was the bold step taken by Mr. Gladstone in appointing Lord Rosebery to moderate between the coal-owners and the miners. The *Times*, somewhat ungraciously, points out the

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danger of resorting to such an exceptional remedy, but the Press generally is delighted at Mr. Gladstone having taken the step, and having chosen so good a moderator. The *Standard* says:—

Nothing could be more judicious. Lord Rosebery is one of the few statesmen of whom it can be said that he enjoys the respect of the propertied classes and the confidence of large sections of the wage-earners. He has achieved a reputation for the sort of dexterity which springs from good nature tempered by common sense. No one questions the genuineness of his sympathy for Labour, while his sympathy is so far intelligent that he would not willingly or consciously commit himself to any unfair judgment on Capital. He understands, in a word, the mutual dependence of the two interests. If anyone can get partisans in trade conflicts to understand each other, and, what is even more important, to recognise frankly the elements of the problem in debate, it is certainly the genial Minister who now, with the heartiest good wishes of the nation, addresses himself to composing a strife which, as Mr. Gladstone aptly said, had not only been of protracted but threatened to be of indefinite duration.

Reuter told us last week that the *Times* was discussing the extraordinary length of the Session, caused by the opposition to the details, the principle having been almost universally accepted, of the Parish Councils Bill. The following extract from the *Standard* of the 15th ult. shows that this deadlock was then anticipated:—

No one will be surprised to hear that the Government, having already set aside the traditions and violated the privileges of Parliament, are now credited with the intention of resorting to a fresh inroad upon its rights. The Ministers who found eight months too meagre an allowance for the compass of a session, and compelled the House, after a brief adjournment of six weeks, to resume its sittings, are beginning to intimate that it is quite possible the session may not be concluded in December, but that a fresh adjournment may become necessary for the Christmas holidays, work being taken up again early in January. The motives for this extraordinary course deserve close examination. So far, the session of 1893, notwithstanding its protracted duration, has been barren, and the Government feel that they must have something in the way of fruitful labour to parade before the country ere it comes to an end. Disregarding the warnings addressed to them from all sides, that the amount of time between November 2nd and December 24th was too little for the passing of the Parish Councils Bill and the Employers' Liability Bill, if these measures were to receive adequate consideration from the two Houses, just as they had ignored the suggestions of those who told them that an ordinary session would not suffice for full and free consideration of their Home Rule Bill, they resolved once more to burden Parliament with a disproportionate amount of work, and they are once again reaping the inevitable consequences of their heedlessness. They now perceive that it is exceedingly probable—we should say that it is absolutely certain—that they will not be able, before Christmas, to get through all the business they have assigned to that interval; and, accordingly, hints are being thrown out that the session may have to last to the end of January, 1894.

Mr. Asquith has been much blamed for allowing people who call themselves Anarchists to meet in Trafalgar Square and talk pestilent nonsense, but in England we have always believed that it was better to have safety-valves than to rely on repression; and, as the ultra-Radical *Sun* says of these fanatics, "they may be Anarchists in theory, but they are too wise to put their principles into practice. If they meant to regenerate the world with bombs, they would not proclaim their intentions to an unappreciative public in Trafalgar Square." The *Westminster Gazette* says:—

"Our comrade in Barcelona has done a great and good act." Such is the reported language of an Anarchist orator at Grafton Hall, Fitzroy Square; and we confess that it raises some grave questions as to the permissible limits to the rights of free speech in any community with the instinct of self-preservation still alive. It is a far more significant and dangerous utterance than the feather-brained expectation of another orator in Trafalgar Square that "there will be something of the same kind here before long"—which frightened Mr. Darling, of Deptford, so much in the House of Commons yesterday afternoon. For it is the direct expression of that mad, topsy-turvy creed, the latest-born of our modern confusions, which threatens to be the harassing foe of modern communities in the times that are coming on. Such language as this, poured into empty brains, and met with "loud cheers," may easily do much mischief. We certainly are not astonished, therefore, that a cry for coercion has been raised. Mr. Balfour made it in the House of Commons yesterday, and it is echoed with all the emphasis of exuberant rhetoric in the *Daily Telegraph* this morning. Nevertheless, we sincerely hope that the Government will maintain that attitude of contempt and indifference to these "Anarchist" effusions which Mr. Asquith adopted yesterday, and which in England is our best security. The "safety-valve" argument is denounced by the panic-mongers now as sentimental and now as pedantic. But surely it is neither. The sentimental line—the line instinctively taken by unreflecting and outraged sentiment—is the cry for coercion. The policy of contempt is adopted only on the second thoughts of prudence, and is founded not on any pedantic adherence to first principles, but on the facts of experience and observation.

Writing on the Franco-Russian *entente* in the *Revue Bleue*, M. Alfred Rambaud, after attributing to the Toulon incident an effect on England which is obviously exaggerated, says:—

If the Franco-Russian alliance is maintained, a law of history, an inexorable law, will manifest itself. In a time, long or short, sooner or later, but certainly, Germany will not be in a condition, from either a financial or military point of view, to maintain her hegemony in Europe, and the day of restitutions will come. France has only Alsace-Lorraine to reclaim: but the reclamations beyond the Vistula will be more rigorous. The self-consciousness of the Slav races, so long crushed by the German race, is now thoroughly awake, and it was seen in 1877 that this self-consciousness could raise armies. The times of the *Drang nach Osten* are ended for Germany; the tide has turned, and the time of the *Drang nach Westen* is beginning for the Slav nations. To hasten the arrival of this unavoidable tide, to advance its coming by a century or two, but one thing was lacking for the Slavs. That one thing was the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine, and this will give the Slavs their opportunity.

This does not make the *entente* to be quite the guarantee for peace in Europe which the Czar insists that it is.

The report of the Spanish Minister of Finance puts the number of killed in the Santander explosion at 250, wounded 400, and missing 80. In addition to the public buildings destroyed, the loss of private property amounted to about £500,000 sterling.

The Continental Press has been amusing itself with discussing England's isolation in Europe, and the *Moscow Gazette* suggests that she will be admitted into the Franco-Russian alliance, if she will evacuate Egypt, and leave off intriguing against Russia in the Balkans. It continues:—

Both Powers, Russia and France, not only can, but ought to require England to abstain from such equivocal proceedings as the visit of Admiral Seymour's Squadron to Italy, and coquetting with the Triple Alliance. Disingenuous and doubtful friends we do not want, and on England lies the *onus* to prove her sincerity. In any case, it is time that England accustomed herself to the idea that she has lost her former weight on questions of higher policy, and as she has only her own duplicity to thank for that loss, let her now, of many evils, choose the least.

In the *Economist's* first leading article, on "The Local Government Debate," our old friend the compound householder, who was such a bone of contention some years ago, comes up again. As has been mentioned before, the serious objection to the Parish Councils Bill is directed at the proposal it contains for the remodelling of the present system of administration of the Poor Law, and while the *Economist* sees some advantages in remitting this change to a more convenient season, it concludes that "the advantages of consolidating existing diverse authorities are considerable, and we are disposed to believe that if all voters were compelled to pay rates directly, there would not be much danger in the proposed change." The *Economist* begins its next article by saying that "the chronic weakness of Spain is a danger rather for Europe than for herself;" and it continues:—

She runs no risk of invasion from any Power, and if she did, would probably meet it with the stubborn refusal to submit which marked her defence in 1808. Indeed, there are respects in which most observers would pronounce her not to be weak at all. Her territory is nearly as large as France, and has as good a climate; its capacity for vine growing is almost unlimited, while it possesses in its "gridiron" of hill ranges mineral resources with which nothing in France could be compared. Its people number seventeen millions, that is, are more numerous than the British when the great war ended, and they have of late years shown a reasonable amount of readiness to hold together and submit to a central authority in domestic matters. The army, nominally 200,000 strong, is composed of excellent soldiers, men unsurpassed for bravery, content to live on bread and onions, and of late years as obedient to their chiefs as any army in the world. There is no genuine dynastic question, "Carlism" being only the protest of the Biscayans against their probably inevitable absorption into the rest of the community, and though the social question rages fiercely, and the Anarchists are marked by a savagery hardly existing in any other country, and indicated this week by an astounding crime at Barcelona, those familiar with the country declare that both could be extinguished by a few practicable reforms in the laws, regulating the tenure of land and combinations among artisans.

Why Spain, with all these resources, is so weak is uncertain, but the fact remains, and this weakness means, to the *Economist*, to be displayed again in the Melilla affair, which, however, appears from the telegram which we publish this morning, to be in the way of satisfactory settlement. The *Economist* warns Spain against exciting the "watchfulness" of France and England by annexing a province of Morocco. France "is supposed in England to govern Algeria and Tunis with much ease, but she is holding a wolf there by the ears, the whole fighting population of her immense southern districts being always ready for revolt, and regarding the Sultan of Morocco as the head of their race and creed. They cannot defeat France, of course, but they could defeat Spain, and could inflict on France a wearisome amount of trouble and expense. It is certain, therefore, that France will be watchful, that England will be watchful, and that Spain will in the end gain little or nothing by an enterprise which would meanwhile disturb all Europe." The third article in the *Economist* condemns the proposal of the U.S. Treasury to coin the seigniorage on its silver. "From an official return, it appears that at the beginning of November there were in the Treasury 109,406,000 ounces of silver, which had been bought at a cost of £25,177,000. Of this silver the coinage value is £36,064,000, so that by converting it into dollars the Treasury could reap a profit of close upon £11,000,000." An interesting note on the Foreign Trade of India shows how prejudicially this has been affected by the recent currency revolution. The comparative figures for July and August in the past three years are:—

IMPORTS.

	1893. Rx.	1892. Rx.	1891. Rx.
Merchandise	10,468,100	9,315,600	9,520,400
Gold	556,900	290,400	653,700
Silver.....	3,211,700	2,506,900	363,700
	14,236,700	12,112,900	10,537,800

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	EXPORTS.		
Indian produce and manufactures	Rx. 12,571,500	Rx. 12,342,300	Rx. 14,850,800
Gold	252,100	998,500	222,200
Silver.....	410,200	370,500	376,400
	13,233,800	14,709,300	15,449,400

Taking the total trade, whereas in 1891 the two months showed an excess of exports over imports of close upon Rx. 5,000,000 and in 1892 an excess of about Rx. 2,600,000, this year the value of the imports exceeded that of the exports by Rx. 1,000,000. And as it is with her excess of exports that India pays her foreign debt, the significance of this change is apparent. It is significant, too, that it is in the trade with China that the great shrinkage of the exports has taken place, there being a decrease of Rx. 640,000 in the value of the opium shipments thither for the two months and a decrease of Rx. 747,000 in the value of the shipments of cotton goods. The prediction of those who maintained that the closing of the mints would not greatly affect India's trade with China has therefore thus far been falsified.

The *Saturday Review* opens its article on "Parish Councils" with a rather amusing statement :—

From one of the few Conservatives who spoke on the Parish Councils Bill—and, if we associate that party name with a definite political creed instead of an accidental Parliamentary position, they were few indeed—there fell two remarks in which we can unreservedly concur. We agree with him in deploring that the principle contained in the Bill should be "even indirectly supported by any party calling itself Conservative;" and we further approve of his resolve to offer no factious opposition to what he knew to be inevitable. To justify both positions it is only necessary to refer to one and the same passage in our past political history. The passing of the Parish Councils Bill is inevitable because a Unionist Government, acting under the exigencies of an alliance which Conservatives have to thank Mr. Gladstone for having forced upon them, passed a County Government Act five years ago; and their support of the Parish Councils Bill is to be deplored because it completes the policy embodied in that Act of substituting for a system of local administration, admitted by its very destroyers to be pure, efficient, and economical, though not called by the blessed name of "elective," another system rejoicing in that blessed name, but expected, almost invited, to be extravagant, certain to be less efficient, and extremely likely to prove corrupt.

The rest of the article is naturally devoted to showing the exceeding badness of the Parish Councils Bill. In the next article, on "The Methods of our Ancestors," it is satirically suggested how the Barcelona and similar Anarchists should be treated. "The methods of our ancestors were hasty. Guido Fawkes and other Catholic gentlemen, fighting for freedom of opinion and the release from abominably oppressive laws, had the misfortune to fall into an anarchistic order of proceedings. They were caught, and, as the ancients say, they did not die easily. Their little private and political secrets were extracted by the rack, which painfully strains the muscles and sinews, by red-hot pincers, and by a number of other disagreeable instruments." These methods were efficacious. In its article on "Matabeleland," the *Saturday* is sufficiently condemnatory of those who regard Mr. Rhodes as a filibuster, but does not put too much confidence in Mr. Rhodes himself, and sticks to it that Lord Ripon must have the controlling voice in the final settlement, in the face of those who "bid us beware how we offend the South Africans, lest we lose South Africa." It concludes :—

Now we do not altogether slight this warning. In consequence of the miserable blunders of Mr. Gladstone's Government a dozen years ago, the loyalty of even English colonists in South Africa to England has been reduced to a very low ebb, while the Afrikander sentiment has been steadily flowing. The third and great success recently announced by Dr. Jameson, if correctly reported, will, of course, make the excogitation of some plan, such as Mr. Buxton hinted at on Thursday, for the administration of the country necessary. At the same time, we would rather haul down the English flag anywhere than keep it flying at the cost of allowing the reasonable demands of the Home Government to be flouted. The labourer is worthy of his hire, and for its services in this case the British South Africa Company has deserved the Charter (advance pay, let it be remembered) which was conferred upon it; and may deserve yet more. But the terms of that Charter must be observed, first of all, and through all; and the chief of these terms is the unchallenged, and unchallengeable, supremacy of the Queen.

We are glad to see the *Saturday* pointing out the unreasonableness of the complaint of the *Times* correspondent who wrote from Toulon, "that our Mediterranean Squadron in peace-time is not equal to the whole naval force, including reserves, kept by the French at their great arsenal." Its article, on "The Mediterranean Squadron," is well worth reading. There is a very appreciative notice of "one more from the small list of living musicians of European reputation," who died suddenly from cholera on the 6th of November, Petr Iljitsch Tschaikowsky.

The *Spectator* has the following Note on the recent State elections in the United States :—

The Americans have been going through their November elections of State officials with unexpected results. The Republicans have won everywhere, especially in Ohio, where Mr. McKinley, author of the Tariff, is elected Governor by a majority of 70,000, and New York, where the Independent Democrats joined the Republicans and defeated Judge Maynard, a man suspected of falsifying election returns, by a majority of 100,000. Republicans also carry their nominees in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The elections were not usually political, and in New York were not political at all, but their general drift is supposed to indicate a strong reaction in favour of Protection. As Mr. Cleveland has three years of power still to run out, and his majority in the House of Representatives can hardly be destroyed, this will not prevent Tariff Reform; but it may make it much more difficult. The people, it is said, are depressed, and therefore out of temper with the Government; but they undoubtedly elected Mr. Cleveland with a mandate to stop the purchase of silver, and to lighten the McKinley Tariff. He has obeyed the first order, and will try to obey the second; but his movements are hampered by the condition of the Treasury, which cannot do without some substitute for the duties to be remitted.

The *Spectator* thinks that Mr. Gladstone is showing weakness as Prime Minister by his want of appreciation of the relatively declining strength of our Navy. "He is a very great Parliamentary Minister,—perhaps the greatest who ever conceived and carried through the Commons gigantic measures that to most Ministers would have seemed hopeless,—but a great Prime Minister in the sense of the chief guardian of the ample and multifarious interests of the United Kingdom, he certainly is not." The calamity at Santander is just the occurrence to strike the imagination of an impressionable journal like the *Spectator*, and it points out how very much greater calamities there might constantly be but for luck. "It is the protection of mankind, not the destruction of mankind, which is so wonderful." There is a very good article, Sir Andrew Clark's death being the text, on "Dying in Harness." There is another good one on "The Worldly Wisdom of Bacon."

Louis Kossuth, who is now in his 88th year has just published the fourth volume of his memoirs, and in his preface he says pathetically enough: "Whoever buys my book, for which my publisher provides me with bread, should be lenient to its shortcomings and pity its author, who is condemned to toil beyond the natural limits of life, and so to verify the curse, 'In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread.'"

NOTICES OF BOOKS, ETC.

Dictionnaire Phonétique Chinois-Français, par un Prêtre de la Congregation de la Mission Missionnaire Apostolique. Peking: Typographie du Peitang, 1893.

This is a volume in small quarto of 624 pages, and it is a book like that of Mr. Stent in its mode of compilation. The author expects that it may be useful to Protestants as well as to Catholics, and he has therefore inserted phrases which he regards as peculiar to Protestant usage. Thus he explains *tao kao* as to "confess to God" (Protestant), *tao wen*, "litanies" (Catholic), 告解 *kao kia*, "confession." He is not quite correct here for the word *tao* means "to pray." When in the Sung dynasty the first emperor who fixed his capital at Hangchow, in the year 紹興五年 *Shao hing wu nien*, on account of drought, fasted, and prayed, the words are 以久旱減膳祈禱 *i chiu han chien shan chi tao*. Here the word *tao* means prayed for the removal of the drought. This act of the emperor is purely Confucian. He diminishes the amount of food when he wishes rain for the country. To this actual prayer is added. Fasting is a preparation for prayer to which he submits in order that he may be more humble and fervent in his supplication to heaven. It proves that Confucianism is a religion and not merely a system of social morality. It is therefore not well to translate this word by "confession" for this is only one part of the meaning. The student if he consults the *Peiwenyunfu* on the word will see that the *Chouli*, the *Tso-chuan*, and the Histories all have interesting examples of its use in the senses we give to our word prayer.

In this vocabulary or dictionary we find a large collection of fixed phrases, which show exactly what the Chinese language is. In reading Chinese we attack words one by one, but they arrange themselves in groups in spite of us. In conversation as we listen we comprehend groups one by one. Take the word *hao*, a mark; we find in this dictionary :

號衣 *hao-i*, military uniform.
號令 *hao-ling*, order.
號筒 *hao-t'ung*, trumpet.
號碼 *hao-ma*, mark.
號泣 *hao-ch'i*, weep.

These are compounds, but we can analyse them. The cause of their existence is, in economy of energy. They serve to express their sense quite easily. It would be a loss of energy to invent new monosyllabic words when a compound of two well known words would serve instead. The two first are camp words. Uniforms have on them a mark *hao* to distinguish them. *Ling* is to order, an order. The letter *t* was formed from *n*, and *n* from *m* many ages ago. *Ling* and 命 *ming*, command, are one word in fact. *Hao-ma*, a sign in arithmetic, is used to denote numbers written from left to right as shroffs write; for example 二卅七 is read 237 in the 草碼 *t'sao ma* or *hao-ma* numeration, commonly used by the Chinese who are engaged in commerce. In *hao t'rung*, "trumpet having a deep tone" the second word means a tube; the last of the six examples *hao ch'i* "weep" is literally, calling and weeping.

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If a verb such as 保 *pao*, to protect, be viewed in the light of the 27 examples given in this vocabulary the nature of Chinese grammar becomes quite clear to observation. The noun it governs follows the verb, as in 保身 *pao shen*, protect the body. Two verbs are joined to emphasise the idea 保守 *pao shou*, 保護 *pao hu*, 保佑 *pao yu*, 保庇 *pao pi*, to shelter 保存 *pao t'sun*, 保全 *pao t'suen*. All these examples are in use. The idea is slightly modified in each case. *Shou* is guard a city. *Yu* is from the hand used as a protection. The best way to teach and to learn Chinese is to keep the etymology in view, that is to regard such a word as derived from the right hand. Both are in the departing tone. *Yu*, a friend, is in the rising tone but that does not prevent it from being the same word. In a very large number of instances the change in tone is a mark to distinguish a special sense. Students should be taught that the departing tone is newer than the rising tone. A good grammar ought to be on the student's table to tell him such things just because the native instructor is not competent to give him the information.

In *pao-shou*, keep, take good care of, it would be well for the learner to know that *shou* is really the hand 手 *shou*, and that the lesson to be drawn from the fact, that the character 守 *shou* is different from 手, is that at the time when the characters were made the verb had already been derived from the noun. Further, the lower part of 守 is a picture of the hand and always means the hand whenever used. The sense of 保, *pao*, as a guarantee, security, also comes from the hand. A security is held in the hand. There can be no reasonable doubt that it is the same word with our bail. Bail and pledge with the Latin *prae* and *praedium* fit well to the same root. The Latin *bajulare*, carry in the hand, is also a derivative of the same wide-spread root. The reason that bail out a man, bailiff, and bail are all expressed in Chinese by this word *pao* is not accident but real identity. The reason of the long preservation of the word in different countries is the emphatic and vivid ideas connected with it. A constable for example has been called bailiff in England since the Saxons, and *pao* in China since B. C. 1,000 as in the *Chouli*. It is the vividness of the ideas connected with words that renders them long-lived. No one need hesitate to teach a pupil that *pao* is really our word bail, though Skeat is content to derive it from *bajulare*, which, however, is itself derived from the old root. It is not at all necessary to heap all the legal meanings of bail on this single word *bajulare*. The legal senses of the root occur in Latin with *p* as in *praes*, a surety. In Teutonic speech the initial is *b*. But *pf* also occurs in *pfand*. *Pretium*, which is our price, is the same word. So also is Φυλασσω, to keep, in Greek. In Chinese *tai pao* and *shao pao* are used as high official titles for those who are the guardians of the heir apparent.

The student must learn to distinguish one *pao* from another by tone, by the old pronunciation, and by the sense. All words written 包 *pao*, have lost final *k* while 保 has lost final t. The characters 暴, *pao*, violent, 報, *pao*, to recompense 礮 *p'ao* cannon, all once had final k. So too 剝 *pao*, *po* and 薄 *pao*, *po*, both had final *k*. But 寶 *pao*, valuable, had final *t*. The characters are, it will be seen, most useful in preserving the differences in meaning which existed when they were invented. Thus, for example, when insurance was introduced in China no character but 保 was ever thought of for this new use. It is followed by 險 *hien*, risk, or by 船 *ch'uen*, ship. 單 *pao tan*, is a certificate of suretyship, because *tan* is anything spread out. This original sense of *tan* is found in *chan* 展 and *shen* 申 to stretch out the hand, and therefore a spread out surface. The student in making these comparisons must note the phonetic. It ends in *n* in all three, 單, 展, 申; as he will find by consulting the Amoy, the Canton, and the Swatow dialects, as well as the Corean and Cochin-Chinese transcriptions. The etymological connection is throughout in harmony with old sounds. For example *shen*, the body, 身 is within this etymological range. In primitive times people sat on the ground. This word for "body" is derived from the act of rising which reveals the body at its full length. The Chinese say 出身 *ch'u shen* for origin. Was a distinguished man descended from tradesmen, or from an official family or from what sort of ancestors? This would be expressed by the question *shên mo ch'u shen**. This shows how to a Chinese thinker the idea is that of a body rising or stretching itself out to its full length. The word *ch'u* 出 means simply come out. In this vocabulary "naissance" is an incomplete statement of the meaning of the phrase. So is Williams' rendering "enter on life," "begin the world." Morrison's is better: "This phrase refers to the person's parentage and circumstances in childhood and youth." Giles, "to begin life; to begin an official career."

It is possible for the characters all ■ be arranged around the phonetics, and the initials and finals classified accordingly. If the student makes this classification while learning the language, clearness of ideas will be the result. The largest collection of phrases is in Giles, but this book and others like it will be found useful. The student should learn as if he were qualifying himself to teach the language. First, the words in groups and then the true order of classification. He must use a grammar.

Here is seen the advantage to be derived by the student from having copious lists of words arranged alphabetically. Words having nearly or quite the same sound can be conveniently distinguished and with the help of a grammar or of a living teacher quick progress can be made.

J. Edkins.

* The phrase 進士出身, is a doctor of literature. That is the degree with which he began his public life and became a well-known man. In this instance *ch'u shen* refers more to himself than to his ancestors.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—The most effectual Cure for Gout and Rheumatism.—A frequent cause of these complaints is the inflammatory state of the blood, attended with bad digestion, lassitude, and great debility, showing the want of a proper circulation of the fluid, and that impurity of the blood greatly aggravates these disorders. Holloway's Pills are of so purifying a nature that a few doses taken in time are an effectual preventive against gout and rheumatism, but anyone that has an attack of either should use Holloway's Ointment also, the powerful properties of which, combined with the effects of the Pills, ensure a certain cure. The Ointment should be thoroughly rubbed into the parts affected at least twice a day, after they have been sufficiently fomented with warm water to open the pores to facilitate the introduction of the Ointment to the glands.

Outports.

CHIANGCHIU, AMOY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE MILITARY REVIEW.

We have just had a visit from the Viceroy of Fukien and Chêkiang provinces in order to review and examine the troops of the several *hsiens* under our Chiangchiu prefecture. Once in three years is, I believe, the proper interval for holding such a review. But occasionally an extra one is held, if it seems necessary. As the coming of such a big mandarin is a comparatively rare event, it naturally creates great excitement throughout the city and neighbourhood. Our houses are situated on the bank of the West river, and so we had an exceptionally good opportunity for seeing something of the way in which they manage such a matter. The great man was to arrive some time during Tuesday, 12th December, and so from daybreak onward crowds of soldiers in all kinds of gay uniform passed our garden on their way to meet the boat that was to bring His Excellency up from Amoy. They had to wait a good long time, for the boat did not arrive until 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and it was quite dark before the Viceroy and his suite were safely escorted to the quarters assigned to them. On the day following, Wednesday, the review began at daylight, and when I got there at 9 o'clock it was more than half over. Indeed this time it seems to have been unusually perfunctory even for the Chinese; and many were the speculations as to why and wherefore. Some thought it might be because the Viceroy was too old (he is said to be nearly 80 years of age), and so was not strong enough to stand the strain of all the manœuvres; others said he had just lost his mother and was obliged to be present at the funeral; others that it was his son that was dangerously ill, and had sent for him at once to see him before death. But later on a new rumour swallowed up all the others, even as Aaron's rod swallowed the rods of the Egyptian magicians, namely, that

THE EMPEROR

himself had accompanied the Viceroy this time both to Amoy and Chiangchiu. What gave rise to this rumour seems to have been; (1) the remarkable speed with which everything was rushed through; (2) the very short time of their stay, not 24 hours from first to last; and further (3) the fact that a chair (of no beauty, but just an ordinary sedan chair such as are in common use all over this region) containing a young man, was carried just in front of the very chair in which the Viceroy was sitting. As I was returning from the review I had the good luck to turn down a side street just in time to see the cavalcade on its way to the river, and sure enough there was this other chair containing a good-looking young man about 24 or 25 years old, and being carried just in front of the Viceroy. I was able to get a good look at both of the occupants of the chairs, and if the rumour is true, then I may claim that I have seen His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of China. What makes it the more probable is the fact that the Emperors are obliged to visit Amoy every few years to worship at the grave of a former Emperor, *viz.*, the first of the present Manchu dynasty, Soon-Ti-Kun as he is called in our dialect, who was killed near Amoy by Coxinga in the year 1662. His body was not recovered as he was drowned at sea, but a grave was made near Amoy at which the usual ceremonies may be regularly performed.

MR. GARDNER.

We are all very sorry that our Amoy Consul, Mr. C. T. Gardner, is to leave us for Seoul, Corea, after barely a year's residence. He has been most indefatigable

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in getting many old-standing cases put through, and merchants and missionaries alike have much cause for thankfulness for his readily proffered help. He will be much missed, and so will his kind and genial wife.

MISSIONARY NEWS.

During the summer and autumn this year there was much sickness in Amoy, especially among missionaries, but with the advent of colder weather it seems to have passed away. Several, however, had to go to Japan for a few weeks' change, and are now back again very much better and able to take up their customary work. We have had some reinforcements this month, among others, the Rev. Campbell Brown for the English Presbyterian Mission, and Miss Horne for the London Mission. The American Reformed Presbyterian Mission (Dutch) has been strengthened by the return to the field of Mrs. Talmage, the widow of Dr. J. V. N. Talmage, who died last year at home after a long service of 42 years. Her two daughters are still working out here and are delighted to have their mother with them again. The Rev. P. W. Pitcher has returned with his wife and children and Mrs. Pitcher is restored to health after four years at home. Next year several other missionaries are due home on furlough, so we are glad that their places are to some extent filled up before they go. The new hospital for the London Mission is now being built in a suitable place not far from our houses. We hope it may be ready in May next year. It will accommodate some 60 odd patients, including 18 women, and will have rooms for students and servants, etc., as well as a fair sized chapel.

15th December.

JAPAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A TRAVELLER INTERVIEWED.

Mr. Ohashi Sahei, managing proprietor of the well-known publishing house known as the Hakubun Kwan, has lately been touring in Europe and the United States—as many are aware—and his return to Japan is signalised by an interview reported in the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. Here are some of his statements: they speak for themselves. Bribes, we are told, are extensively used in dealing with European and American journals, especially in matters in any way bearing upon the question of peace and war—and when bribes are given the amounts are not on a par with the sum said to have been given to Hoshi Toru on a recent occasion. Mr. Ohashi, having thus unburdened himself, proceeded to remark on the influence exercised by journals in the present day; the bribes in themselves were evidence of the fact. The immense buildings occupied by newspapers abroad also bore testimony to the power of the press. The number of newspapers in the States astonished this extremely wide-awake visitor; and he is disposed to regard America as an outcome of modern journalism. London, he said, is different—but he does not appear to have bestowed much attention upon English journalism, a fact which I can only deeply regret. Mr. Ohashi might have added so much to our stock of ideas, and his criticism could scarcely have failed to prove suggestive and valuable. It is not often one is found to speak so fully as Mr. Ohashi is ready to.

PARIS—KIOTO—BERLIN.

In Paris, he heard of pretty views, fine streets, etc., etc., as though he were in Kioto—nothing noteworthy in connection with business. Passing on to Germany (there is something at once reassuring and inspiring in the readiness with which your modern Japanese can flit from country to country, noting this, ganging that, and setting down at its true intrinsic value some institution or another altogether unduly appraised by the natives—well, in Germany) our enlightened traveller was struck with the simplicity, the heroic atmosphere of the place, the activity, and—it's an unpleasant drop, but it must out—*the fatness of the horses*. Picture the mental grasp, the breadth of view this indicates. Able to discern at a glance the prevailing characteristics of the men on the street, gifted with some subtle power which enables the possessor to draw confident conclusions as to the nature of the beings with whom he rubbed shoulders on the pavement, Mr. Ohashi still had an eye for the noblest of animals and was proud to admire their sleek and fat condition. But the admiring eye is not suffered to remain on the scene. The enraptured listener is hurried back to America, and American newspapers. There, newspapers are in every household. There, women are frequently employed in offices. The advantage is obvious, supposing some one has to be interviewed. A man may be refused on the pretext that one is too busy, and so forth; but a woman cannot be so easily put aside, and moreover the party interviewed may easily be thrown off his guard by his fair visitant and made to reveal more than he intended to through the strength of

A WOMAN'S CHARMING LIPS.

Mr. Ohashi perhaps speaks from experience. It is more than likely; and if the surmise is well-founded it accounts for much that is otherwise unaccountable—unless, indeed, one is to put this great head of a great publishing company down for an—but it would be cruel to anticipate judgment. From publications, daily or otherwise, to publishing companies is a very natural step, and in speaking of the great publishing corporations Mr. Ohashi may be assumed, I suppose, to be on his own ground, so to speak. He was disappointed in the size of the English and American publishing-houses. Regarded from the point of view of publications—the variety of works published—he found none greater than his own establishment, the Hakubun Kwan, which may therefore be called

THE FIRST PUBLISHING-HOUSE IN THE WORLD.

This is Mr. Ohashi's view—and it is just possible that Mr. Ohashi is not the best judge. This critic, whose self-sufficiency excites marvel, if not envy, further found that foreign publishers, generally speaking, are very careless in the selection of paper and in the employment of men; and so great is their carelessness that he is sure he could easily compete with and defeat them were he to establish himself in America. The Tokio paper does not make it quite clear whether this also applies to England, France, and Germany, but it is perhaps safer to consider that it does—lest men at home should be lulled into a false sense of security. What the foreign publishers want, evidently, is not only Mr. Ohashi Sahei, manager and chief owner of the greatest publishing company in the world (i.e., Japan's world), but Japanese hands and Japanese paper. But fortunately or unfortunately for the Occident Mr. Ohashi is determined to stay at home and revolutionise things—not in the publishing world (which is of course perfect) but in the field of journalism.

A PROPHET OF A NEW ERA.

This and more, Mr. Ohashi clearly hopes and aspires to be. He has cast his searching glance over the home field, and sorrow and mortification are the result. He grieves that so few of his countrymen read the papers. It is not, he affirms, due to the lack of readers, but to the people in charge of the newspapers. In this connection it is interesting to note that Mr. Ohashi took the trouble to inform his interviewer that he had been to the World's Fair, he had there met several Japanese journalists, but not one was of any use. Not one was qualified for his office. If this held good in Chicago, to which picked men would be sent, what can be expected here? In general Japanese journalists are ignorant of the way to conduct newspapers; they don't know how to cater to their readers' wants. Mr. Ohashi declares he would dispose of fifty or a hundred thousand copies daily were he in journalistic work, and he has thrown out a hint that he may try his fortune. He distinctly says he has a present for his country in store in connection with newspaper enterprise, but it is of too sacred a character, until he has revealed it to a privileged few beforehand. We have therefore nothing to do but wait patiently. When Mr. Ohashi Sahei has taken Mr. Tokutomi of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, Mr. Fukuzawa of the *Jiji Shimpo*, Mr. Kuga of the *Nippon*, and a few others into his confidence, then an anxious world is to be enlightened. Thus Mr. Ohashi Sahei—a gentleman whose phenomenal discernment and monumental modesty would probably have remained hidden but for a Tokio interviewer.

Kobe, 19th December.

NOTES FROM THE SOUTH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE REGATTA.

As I anticipated, in my last, the weather on the second day of the Regatta proved most favourable, and the breeze which got up in the afternoon was perfect for the sailing races. The flagship was well patronised, and the fleet of steam-launches was, if anything, larger than ever; but the course was better kept than has been the case on some previous occasions. The German crew, as I expected, carried off the International Cup. There was not, however, a very overwhelming Teutonic element in the *personnel* of the winning crew. Three of them were Lammerts, colonial-born youths, English on the maternal side. Their win was very popular, the public always rejoicing to see the native-born youngsters distinguishing themselves in any form of sport.

OPENING OF THE BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The inauguration of the Belilios Public School for girls, which took place on the afternoon of the 18th instant, was a memorable function. As I mentioned in a previous letter, Mr. Belilios has erected this school at his own expense—it cost $30,000—on a site presented by the Government, and on this occasion he handed it formally over to the Governor. There was a thoroughly representative gathering on the playground to witness the proceedings, including the Admiral and General. The acting Director of Public Works having in a short speech in which he complimented Mr. Ram, the architect, on his work, stated that the building had been completed and furnished in a manner befitting the promise made by Mr. Belilios when he undertook to present it, the Inspector of Schools (Dr. Eitel) then made a lengthy speech, reviewing the history of education in the Colony, and concluded by informing His Excellency that the donor wished to hand the school over to the unrestricted control of the Government. Sir William Robinson, in a neat speech, very fluently delivered, expressed the pleasure he felt in taking over so welcome a gift and assuming the responsibility for its maintenance. He went on to eulogise the Hon. E. R. Belilios for his munificence, and hoped his liberal example would be followed by other wealthy colonists. Then came a surprise. Her Majesty, the Governor said, had been made acquainted with Mr. Belilios's liberality in the cause of education (this is not the first gift of the kind) and had bestowed upon him the Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Mr. Belilios then

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delivered a lengthy speech. Having first, with obvious emotion, thanked the Governor for the honour conferred upon him, forgetting in his excitement that it came from the Sovereign through her representative, he expatiated on the good he hoped would flow from the spread of education among Chinese girls, airing some views rather novel and, I think, somewhat at variance with those of most educationists, as to the inutility of the study of Chinese in Hongkong schools. But while many persons may be disposed to disagree with him on this point, and also to doubt the possibility of the teaching of English to Chinese children in this island rendering unnecessary the maintenance of a naval squadron in China waters, all will join in the hope that education will raise the position of the sex in China. At the close of Mr. Belilios's speech, he presented the keys of the building, in silver and laid on a handsome cushion, to the Governor, and the latter then proceeded to open it, and the company passed into the class rooms, the scholars filing in by another door. The smallest girl then presented a fine bouquet to Lady Robinson, who in response made a happy little speech, in the course of which she expressed regret at the absence of Mrs. Belilios (now in Calcutta) in one of the proudest and gladdest moments of her husband's life. Tea and refreshments were then served to the guests, who shortly afterwards dispersed.

THE CADET CORPS.

I must not forget to mention that the guard of honour was furnished by the Public Schools Cadet Corps and the music by the Schools Band. The Cadet Corps made their first appearance on this occasion, in white uniform with blue facings. The lads acquitted themselves very creditably.

THE NEW C.M.G.

The general feeling is that the C.M.G. has been thoroughly well bestowed. Mr. Belilios has long been distinguished for munificence both in public and private, and though he has many detractors, few of them can deny his liberality or question his kindness of heart. The honour was not wholly unexpected by some of the residents, though it came rather unexpectedly at last. The secret was well kept, but the Governor remarked in my hearing, that he only knew of it the previous day.

THE HONGKONG REGIMENT BAND.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 21st inst., an amendment to the Estimates in the shape of an addition of $500 was proposed as a vote towards the maintenance of the band of the Hongkong Regiment, which was cheerfully and unanimously agreed to. Colonel Barrow, when making application for this very modest contribution, said the band would be at the service of and play regularly for the public. The senior unofficial member, speaking for his colleagues, and I am sure for the community, most cordially concurred in the grant.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Naval movements have been few and unimportant. The British gunboat *Redpole* arrived here on the 21st inst. from Shanghai *viâ* ports, and the *Porpoise* is expected to-morrow. The U.S. cruiser *Concord* left here on the 18th inst. for Shanghai, and the armoured cruiser *Baltimore* arrived here this morning from Singapore. The *Baltimore* is a fine vessel built of steel, having a displacement of 4,413 tons and her horse-power 10,750, developing a speed of 19 knots. She carries 4 8-inch breechloading rifled guns, 6-inch ditto, and 6 quick-firing ditto. She is a formidable looking vessel with two funnels and a couple of fighting tops. With these vessels the United States will be more fittingly represented in these waters. Her obsolete wooden tubs will gradually give place to modern ships, and one day even the *Monocacy* will become a memory of the past.

THE TRAMWAY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong High Level Tramway Co., Ld., was held on the 21st inst., when the report and accounts were passed *nem. con.* The Chairman made a lengthy speech, reviewing the history of the Company and in vindication of the management, recapitulating the improvements made and setting forth the expenses necessitated. The buffet at the Gap Terminus is to be opened shortly, and I note work is in progress for the erection of a new station at St. John's Place. This latter improvement might, I think, have been deferred for a season, though no doubt it will conduce to the comfort of passengers. I am glad to see, however, that there is every prospect of the company earning good dividends in the future. I cull from the published reports of the company the gross receipts since the opening of the line, which, as will be seen, indicate a steady increase of traffic to and from the hill districts:—

	$
1888, six months	14,927.75
1889, twelve months	20,930.35
1890 " "	25,185.20
1891 " "	27,773.40
1892 " "	34,587.28
1893 " "	38,315.74

PEAK ROADS.

It seems a pity that the government will not second the tramway in making the main district, on Mounts Kellett and Gough, more accessible. From Victoria Gap—the terminus of the Tramway—to that district the road is carried up a long and wearisome climb to Plunkett's Gap, which is trying to pedestrians and coolies alike, and is almost impassable in windy weather in the Gap itself. This climb might easily be avoided, by making a road on a lower level, which could be carried out on to the Mount Kellett road at the back of the hill on which "Stolzenfels" stands. The cost need not exceed some $2,000, and no doubt the residents who would benefit by it would contribute by subscription to the work.

THE PEAK HOTEL AND RESIDENCES.

Some structural alterations are now in progress at the Peak Hotel that will materially improve that building and render it a real rival to the Mount Austin. I do not know who was responsible for the addition to the plan of a block at the rear which not only darkened the whole of the back of the main building but was so thoroughly dreary that the rooms were never tenanted. Their only outlook was into the back windows of the front block and the side of the cutting in which it was deposited. Visitors to the Peak do not go there to immure themselves in dungeons, so they rejected these rooms even at $10 a month. This block is now in course of demolition, and the materials are to be used in the erection of two wings, one at either end of the main building, which will provide a number of good rooms all enjoying splendid views, and therefore equally lettable with those on the front elevation. The hotel is also being repainted and colour-washed, and being so close to the Tramway it must naturally come into great favour with summer visitors to the Peak. As a place of residence the Peak district is steadily growing in popularity. Usually in the winter there is a great clearance and many empty houses. This year, however, the flitting has been so small as scarcely to be noticeable, and there are not more than half a dozen houses to let at the present moment. Rents are still very low, and that of course is no slight inducement, but the pure air, the freedom from smells, and the quietude are gradually making their advantages felt.

THE BALMORAL GOLD CO.

Another attempt is being made to recover lost money from a mining venture, and I hope it may prove more successful than some others, notably that made by the shareholders of the Selama Co. The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Ld. are raising fresh capital to prosecute their enterprise, being satisfied by reports made to them that the mine is valuable and only needs honest and intelligent working to yield remunerative results.

THE GOVERNOR OF MACAO.

His Excellency Senhor Custodio Miguel de Borja, Governor of Macao and Portuguese Minister Plenipotentiary to China, Japan, and Siam, is about to leave for Lisbon, having completed the brief term of service usually expected from Lusitanian high officials. He has not been very popular in the so-called Holy City, but some of the inhabitants propose to do him honour on the eve of his departure. A subscription ball for that purpose is therefore being got up, and will no doubt be largely attended. His Excellency's successor is said to be a personage of some influence in Lisbon.

Hongkong, 22nd December.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

Specially translated for the North-China (Herald.)

21st October.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

Ho Kuang-siu, newly-appointed Colonel, gives thanks for the Imperial bounty. The Duke of Ting asks for five days' extra leave of absence from Court duties.

BROCADED AND EMBROIDERED SILKS FOR THE COURT.

Yüng T'ing, Imperial Commissioner of the Soochow Government Silk Looms, reports the amount used by his department for the weaving of brocaded and embroidered silks ordered by the Household Department on behalf of His Majesty's Court during the year 1890-1. In 1889 memorialist's predecessor was commanded by order of the Throne to prepare for the use of the Court and for Imperial presents 4,143 pieces of embroidered Court robes, flags (silk and satin), and brocaded silks of the heaviest kind. Owing to want of funds to defray the expenses of embroidering and weaving the required stuffs, the predecessor of memorialist obtained a respite, extending the time to supply the silk and satin goods to a period of two years. Since then memorialist has succeeded, by dint of hurrying on the contributions of the Provincial Treasury, the Shanghai Maritime Customs, and the Soochow and Shanghai Likin Bureaux, in sending up to Peking the required stuffs by the end of 1892, using the sum of Tls. 135,633, odd, about Tls. 700 for packing and freightage, and various other sums. The entire contributions of the above-named departments of Tls. 104,031 odd, together with the money already in hand, handed down by the memorialist's predecessor, have therefore been found inadequate for the purpose in view, and memorialist now has to report a deficit of Tls. 2,302.27 which should be owing the weavers and embroiderers of his department. Memorialist, however, congratulates the Throne that owing to the instructions received from Peking, the various stuffs sent up to the Court have been of a finer and thicker quality than has usually been the case in previous years, and also the brocades and embroidery work have been done with unusual care and thoroughness, the gold brocades and embroidery being exceptionally worthy of mention. In the meanwhile the deficit of Tls. 2,302 odd has been made good by a loan contracted

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by memorialist which will be repaid in due time.—*Rescript*: *Let the proper department take note.*

22nd October.

THE COURT.

His Majesty gave audience this morning in the Grand Council Chamber to Yü Tê, the new deputy Captain-General of the Bordered Yellow Manchu Banner Corps, and to Ch'ung Li, Brigade-General of the Left Wing, *i.e.*, Senior Lieutenant-General or Police Provost of the Peking Gendarmerie.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

Wêng T'ung-ho, President of the Board of Revenue, and his colleagues report the completion of their duties as Examiners of the Peking Provincial Grace Examinations. En P'u having completed his leave of absence reports his return to Court duties. Owing to the discovery and denunciation by a Censor of certain frauds in the recent Grace Examinations for the *chujén* degree, His Majesty ordered that the Imperial Examiners Wêng T'ung-ho, President of the Board of Revenue and his colleagues should be penalised by black marks put against their official records as a punishment for carelessness; but by the grace of the Throne certain good records of these officials were allowed to counterbalance the above-named marks, therefore cancelling the latter from the records. Wêng T'ung-ho and his colleagues therefore gave thanks to His Majesty this morning for the Imperial grace. Yü Tê, Deputy Captain-General of the Bordered Yellow Manchu Banner Corps, gave thanks this morning for his appointment.

LOYAL CONTRIBUTION OF SHANTUNG SALT MONOPOLISTS.

Fu Yün, an officer bearing the brevet rank of a Board President and Governor of Shantung, in a florid memorial full of adulatory sentences in praise of the longevity and rare virtues of H.I.M. the Empress Dowager, states that the salt monopolists of Shantung province, Liu Hun-hsü, Shih Yi-chü, and others, not to be behind the loyalty of their predecessors of H.I.M. the Emperor Ch'ien Lung's reign during the 18th century, who contributed two sums of Tls. 50,000 each to the Imperial Treasury in devoted recognition of the fiftieth and seventieth birthdays of H.M. the Empress Dowager of the above named Prince, have signified the intention to the memorialist to do the same thing on the sixtieth anniversary of H.I.M. the Empress Dowager, Tze Hsi's birthday next year. In accordance with which exhibition of loyalty, the said salt monopolists have already deposited the sum of Tls. 50,000 in the Salt Commissioner's treasury with the request that it be sent on to Peking and handed to the Commissioners in charge of the Birthday celebrations.—*Rescript*: *The said monopolists are allowed to contribute, and let the proper yamén take note.*

A CHEHSIEN DENOUNCED FOR CONCEALING THE DEATH OF A PARENT.

The same high official, sends a special memorial denouncing a district magistrate for trying to conceal the death of a parent in order to avoid the necessity of retiring into private life and mourning. [According to the etiquette of official life, any officer who receives news from his family concerning the death of a parent or parents should at once report the fact to his superiors, nor is he allowed to make any delay in doing so.] Memorialist now learns from the joint petition of Yao Hsieh-chan, Taotai of the Yen-Yi-Ts'ao-Tsi Circuit, and Wang Jui-sin, prefect of Yenchowfu, that they have heard that the acting district magistrate of Ssüshuihsien, named Wang Tso-ts'ai, received some time ago a letter from his native town to the effect that his mother was no more. Instead of reporting the occurrence to his superiors, the said district magistrate delayed a long time without saying anything one way or the other, but at last sent up a petition to the above-named Taotai and prefect asking to be temporarily relieved from office on the ground of ill-health. These officials, however, had heard certain rumours that this *chehsien's* mother was really dead, but having no written proof of the same, they of course could do nothing, but to order his successor to make secret investigations into the subject. Eventually, however, a letter written by the magistrate to a friend was intercepted in which he tells the latter that his mother died some time ago through grief at the death of her youngest son. Having now written evidence in proof of their suspicions the petitioners at once reported this gross breach of etiquette to the Provincial Treasurer and Judge, asking these officials to recommend the punishment of the magistrate in question. As it is the law to cashier any official who has broken this rule, without mercy, and since Wang Tso-ts'ai had attempted, under a frivolous pretext, to conceal the death of his mother, forgetting filial piety and hankering after official life, which is in very truth a distinct violation of our Confucianist creed, memorialist now requests the immediate cashiering of the said Wang Tso-ts'ai, stripping him of his entire rank, and also that he be dismissed forever from the public service.—*Rescript*: *Granted*: *Let the Board of Civil Appointments take note.*

23rd October.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Ch'ang Lin is appointed Chief Examiner and Yi Nien Assistant Examiner of the Manchu Translating Examinations for the *chujén* degree.

(2) Siu Lin and Chung Tê-siang are appointed Proctors of the Interior Court; Kuei Pin and Wu Shu-fên Proctors of the Inner hall; and Wên Yü, En P'u, Hu Huei-hsing and Yang Ch'êng Surveillance Committee in the approaching *chujén* examinations.

(3) Hsi Lang-a, Senior Deputy Police Provost Marshal, and Wên Jui, Junior Deputy Policy Provost Marshal, are appointed to supervise the police arrangements of the Inner Examination halls during the Examinations.

(4) Shêng-a-lu-fu, Su Li-ch'ing, Ping Chung, Hsing En and Hui Shuang-fu are appointed to receive the theses of the candidates and hand them to the Examiners.

(5) The Grain Intendancy of Soochow and Sungkiang, Kiangsu, shall be filled by Wu Cheng-lu.

(6) A decree granting a quantity of rice from the Kiangsu Tribute rice granaries in aid of the sufferers from the floods in the capital and Shüntʻienfu, and a warning of condign punishment on such officials hard-hearted enough to peculate to the disadvantage of the refugees who have flocked to Peking or T'ungchow.

THE COURT.

His Majesty granted audience this morning in the Grand Council Chamber to Siang Ling and Ts'ien Ying-p'u. Tsai Ch'i, Prince of the 3rd Order, has been appointed by His Majesty Superintendent of the schools established for the children of the *Gioro* or collateral branch of the Imperial Clan.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

Chu Sing, President of the Court of Censors, has been appointed Senior Patriarch of the Bordered Yellow Manchu Bannermen. The Duke of Yung reports his return from an inspection of the repairs made to the Eastern Imperial mausoles. Hsü Ying-k'uei and Hsü Chih-tsing gave thanks for the Imperial grace confirming their respective sons in their degree of *chujén* recently obtained by them at the Metropolitan examinations. Liang Ch'ung-hêng reports his return to his Court duties on expiry of leave of absence.

No other news of interest.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 19th December, 1893, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. L. Scott (Chairman), F. Anderson, J. Cooper, D. C. Jansen, D. M. Moses, J. Welch, and the Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting is taken as read.

The Minutes of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Bunding Creek—North Honan Road.—The following correspondence is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, le 12 Décembre 1893.

MONSIEUR LE PRESIDENT,—J'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer, sous ce pli, la traduction d'une dépêche du Taotaï en date du 9 courant, par laquelle il demande au Municipal Council de faire inspecter un fossé situé "North Honan Road" et de lui faire connaître si votre Conseil a une objection quelconque à la construction d'une muraille de quai à ce fossé.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma considération la plus distinguée.

JOAQUIN MARIA TRAVASSOS VALDEZ,
Consul-Général du Portugal et Senior Consul.

Monsieur J. L. SCOTT,
Président du "Municipal Council"
of the Settlement North of the
Yang-king-pang, Shanghai.

Traduction.

Le Taotaï Nieh au Doyen du Corps Consulaire.

Le Taotaï de Shanghaï a reçu une pétition de Tung Chun-chu, Directeur de la "Shanghai Bankers Guild," disant qu'il y a déjà longtemps, cette corporation a acheté un terrain sur lequel ont été construits des bâtiments terminés maintenant.

Le pétitionnaire désire approfondir le fossé situé à l'est du bâtiment et construire une muraille de quai en charpente pour protéger le sol. Il a déjà fait dresser un plan et il demande qu'une permission lui soit accordée pour construire conformément à ce plan.

J'ai ordonné au magistrat du district de faire une enquête, et aujourd'hui il m'envoie le rapport suivant.

"Le magistrat du district et A. M. Cho, juge de la Cour Mixte, se sont rendus sur les lieux et ont trouvé qu'à l'est du bâtiment il y a un petit fossé mesurant 463 pieds de longueur; ils ne peuvent dire quelle en est la largeur exacte, car elle est très irrégulière. Le fossé est dans le prolongement de la 'North Honan Road.' Les rapporteurs sont d'avis que ce fossé doit être approfondi et élargi de façon à former un canal de 11 pieds de largeur; il serait préférable de construire une muraille de quai en maçonnerie plutôt qu'en charpente, afin d'éviter plus sûrement l'affaissement du sol. Par suite de leur examen, les rapporteurs sont d'avis qu'il n'y a aucun inconvénient à accorder la permission d'exécuter ces travaux. Cependant, ce terrain étant depuis peu considéré comme faisant partie du 'Foreign Settlement,' tous les travaux devant y être exécutés demandent une approbation tautuelle. Les rapporteurs prient en conséquence Votre Excellence de bien vouloir écrire officiellement aux autorités compétentes à ce sujet, puis de leur donner ses instructions."

Le Taotaï, avant de faire part aux rapporteurs de sa décision, a l'honneur de vous informer de cette affaire et vous prie de demander au "Municipal Council" d'en faire l'examen nécessaire.

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Attendant votre réponse afin de donner mes instructions pour le commencement des travaux, je vous souhaite toutes sortes de prospérités.

(Carte de S. E. le Taotaï Nieh).

Está conforme,
C. A. R. D'Assumpção,
Interprete Sinologo.

Shanghai, 20th December, 1893.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst. enclosing translation of a dispatch from the Taotai intimating that the Shanghai Bankers' Guild are desirous to deepen the Creek on the East side of their property adjoining the Honan road, and asking whether the Council have any objection to their having a stone bunding constructed along it.

In reply I have to request that you will inform the Taotai that the Council have no objections to the Bankers' Guild having a stone bunding constructed on the side of the Creek adjoining the North Honan road, between the Pok Chuen Hong and Nan Chuen Hong Creeks, but before they apply for a permit they must communicate with the Municipal Engineer and arrange with him about the construction of the bunding.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. L. Scott,
Chairman.

Joaquim M. T. Valdez, Esq.,
Consul-General for Portugal,
and Senior Consul.

Bridge—Szechuen Road.—The following letter is read and ordered to be published:—

Conseil d'Administration Municipale
de la Concession Française,

Shanghai, le 14 Decembre 1893.

Monsieur,—J'ai l'honneur de vous remettre sous ce pli le compte de la construction du pont métallique, avec culées en pierre, dit pont No. 2 sur le Yang-king-pang, reliant le "Szechuen Road" à la Rue Montauban, se montant à Tls. 7,056.82 (sept mille six cent cinquante-six $\frac{82}{100}$ et, conformément aux conventions intervenues entre les deux Conseils, je viens vous prier de vouloir bien m'envoyer un chèque pour la moitié de la somme ci-dessus soit, Tls. 3,828.41, représentant la part contributive du "Municipal Council."

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

Le Secretaire,
R. de Malherbe.

Monsieur R. F. Thorburn,
Secretaire du Municipal Council.

Decided to send cheque for the amount named.

New Jetty—Soochow Creek.—The annexed correspondence is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 14th December, 1893.

JETTY AT SAN TAI ROAD.

Dear Sir,—A large Godown has just been erected in San Tai Road, and some means of landing and discharging cargo at the Soochow Creek are required. On behalf of the owners of Cadastral lots 54 and 55, Hongkew, we write to ask for permission to erect a jetty at the end of the San Tai Road subject to such reasonable conditions as may be decided upon.

We are,
Yours faithfully,
Morrison & Gratton.

R. F. Thorburn, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 21st December, 1893.

Gentlemen,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., which has been submitted to the Council and in reply, I am directed to inform you that when the new boundary of Hongkew was settled it was arranged that the conservation of the Soochow Creek should be under the charge of the Chinese Authorities, so that their sanction must be obtained before any Jetty projecting into the Creek can be constructed.

If the owners of Cadastral lots 54 and 55 obtain this, the Council will grant them permission to construct a Jetty at the end of the San Tai road subject to the usual condition that they will remove it at any time if called upon to do so.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
R. F. Thorburn,
Secretary.

Messrs. Morrison & Gratton.

Volunteers—New Appointments.—The following letter is read and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 18th December, 1893.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that at a largely attended meeting of the Shanghai Volunteer Engineers held on 11th November last, Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton was unanimously elected as Lieutenant of the Nordenfelt Section. Mr. Brutton held a Commission as Lieutenant and Captain in the 1st (Exeter and South Devon) Volunteer Battalion Devonshire Regiment since 2nd July, 1887. I think that the usual examination may be dispensed with in his case and I recommend that a Commission should be issued to him at once.

At the same meeting Mr. George Miller was unanimously elected as 2nd Lieutenant, and when this gentleman has passed the usual examination I shall address you again in reference to the issue of a Commission to him.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
B. A. Clarke,
Senior Captain, S.V.C.

To J. L. Scott, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

Decided to approve of and confirm these appointments; the commission for Lieutenant Brutton is then signed and ordered to be forwarded.

Rifle Range.—The following letters are ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 7th December, 1893.

Dear Sir,—I beg to call the attention of the Council to the damage being done to the Brick Pillars in front of my houses by bullets fired by Municipal Volunteers, Police, or other parties authorised by the Council to fire on the Rifle Range.

I find that since I last wrote on the subject the Pillars have been struck several times and considerably damaged. I also find that a bullet passed quite close to the front of the houses making its exit through the fence two and a half feet from the front door steps.

I may state that no reply was sent to my last on this subject.

Yours faithfully,
J. C. Grant.

J. L. Scott, Esq.,
Chairman,
Shanghai Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 20th December, 1893.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst. addressed to the Chairman, and to inform you that as you with knowledge of the circumstances, and after special warning, built houses in a position where projectiles have been passing for many years, you must suffer any damage that is done in ordinary course, and should see that no people get into dangerous positions whilst practice at the range is going on.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. F. Thorburn,
Secretary.

J. C. Grant, Esq.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The following reports are submitted and ordered to be published with the foregoing Minutes:—

Police.—Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Municipal Police during the week ending the 23rd day of December, 1893:—

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Breach of Municipal Regulations	6
Cutting and wounding	3
Furious riding or driving	1
Gambling	9
Ill-treating women or children	1
Kidnapping	3
Larceny from persons	4
Larceny from dwellings, etc.	41
Miscellaneous cases	97
Rickshaw Licences suspended	600
Wheelbarrow Licences suspended	44
Handcart ,, ,,	4
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers	420
Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police	1,233
Stray dogs captured	134

J. P. McEuen.
Captain Superintendent, S.M.P.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—Return of animals kept at the native dairies for the week ending the 25th December, 1893:—

Dairies.	Remarks.
Ho Ji (New Newark Road)	
Broadway No. 2	
,, No. 3	
,, No. 4	2 Buffaloes bought.
Lee Hongkew and Woosung Road	
Sinza Village No. 2	
,, ,, No. 3	
Taikoo Dairy	
Chang Yoong Sing	
Yuenseing	
Sung Lee and Pawnbroker	
Ajaing and Hongkew Hongkew	
Tea and Hongkew	3 Buffaloes from country.
Zo Butler	
South of Paksonigh	
Ah Chee and Nanshing	
Ah Chan	
Sunwo and Hongkew	
Lanza Brick- and St. George's Farm	
Cemetery Road and Chang Kee	
Carter Road Dairy and Sun Dzong Chan	
Total	5

All the animals kept at the above-mentioned dairies have been inspected twice during the past week and found to be healthy and free from disease.

George Cameron,
Inspector of Markets.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO.—This has been known for 60 years to be the best, purest, and most fragrant tooth powder. It whitens the teeth, prevents and arrests decay, strengthens the gums, and gives a pleasing fragrance to the breath. Rowland's Macassar Oil preserves and beautifies the hair, and is the best brilliantine for ladies' and children's hair, as it is not too greasy or too drying. Also sold in a golden colour. Ask any chemist or perfumer for Rowland's articles, of 20, Hatton Garden, London. 2s

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MAJOR BROTHERS, LIMITED.

On Wednesday afternoon the fourth annual general meeting of this company was held at the office, Hanbow Road. Mr. J. Chambers (Chairman) presided, and there were present Messrs. J. D. Thorburn, J. Jaques (Directors) F. W. Such, S. Bowness, G. R. Corner, E. E. Porter, F. J. Marshall, Wilmer Harris, H. J. Such, W. A. Hague, W. S. Jackson, L. Moore, W. H. Beatty, E. O. Arbuthnot, A. Burman, W. G. Moore, P. A. W. Ottomeier, and J. Findlay (Secretary), representing directly and by proxy 1,627 shares. The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, you have had the report and accounts so long that I shall ask you to consider them as read, but if any gentleman wishes to ask any questions about them we shall be happy to answer him. We issued a circular with the report, which you no doubt have read, and, in accordance with that circular, a private meeting was held on Tuesday last, and those shareholders who wished for information were answered on every point upon which enquiry was made. If any gentleman has now any further points upon which he desires to ask questions we shall be happy to give him any information. (After a pause.) As no gentleman has any questions to ask I shall put the first resolution:—

That the report and accounts, as printed and published, be passed.

Mr. J. Jaques seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman—The next resolution is proposed by Mr. J. D. Thorburn and seconded by myself. It is:—

That Mr. Wilmer Harris be re-elected as auditor for the current year, and his remuneration be as heretofore, Tls. 200.

I have much pleasure in speaking to this resolution as Mr. Harris has distinguished himself by the careful way in which he has gone into our accounts, in fact, the only thing we have got to say against him is that the Secretary complains of the minute way in which he requires vouchers and sees into the details of our accounts.

The resolution was then put and carried.

The Chairman—On the occasion of our private meeting I intimated that with the view of leaving shareholders entirely free and untrammelled in electing an entirely new Board who will then be in a position to appoint a Secretary and General Manager of your own choosing, we intended to place our resignation in your hands at the general meeting on the 27th instant, and to enable you to make the election legally we are prepared to recommend the nominees you bring forward and then formally resign ourselves. By giving you this intimation you had several days to look round for suitable men to serve on the new Board. I have now to ask if any shareholder has any resolution to offer. The present Board will recommend any new Board you may suggest and upon doing so will formally resign. The fact of the present Board recommending the nominees of the shareholders, gets over any difficulty arising from clause 107 of the Articles of Association, and will make any new Board now elected perfectly legal.

Mr. A. Burman—I think you gave us such very ample information at the informal meeting that it is unnecessary to refer to anything in connection with the working of the company. I beg to propose:—

That Messrs. J. D. Thorburn, John Chambers, H. J. Such, and A. McLeod, having agreed to serve if elected, they be elected as Directors of Major Bros., Ld.

Mr. G. R. Corner seconded.

The Chairman—Has any other gentleman any other proposition to bring forward, or any other nominees? (After a pause.) It is rather a delicate position for myself, but if no gentleman has any nominee to bring forward I can only state the present Board recommend your nominees, and now formally resign.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Chairman—Before closing the meeting I should like to mention to you that our Secretary is leaving us for, I believe, a better appointment, and the Directors—I am still speaking on behalf of the old Board—wish him every success, and have benefited greatly by his services, and hope the new Board will only be fortunate enough to secure a Secretary of equal merit. (Applause.) I do not think I have any further remarks I can make and I will thank you for your attendance and declare the business of the meeting finished.

The proceedings terminated with the usual complimentary vote to the Chairman.

Poetry.

RICHARD FRANCIS BURTON.

(After reading the "Life and Letters.")

He sleeps in tented marble, all his own,
Not in the close Academy of Dead
Where England huddles in a public bed
Those for whose lives' neglect she would atone.

Yet lacks he nothing, tho' that famous throng
Without his company be incomplete;
The fact is sordid, the result is meet
And fitting, tho' it was conceived in wrong.

He and a few whose posthumous renown
Tolls from the isles of Britain through the world,
Like storm-toss'd galleys till their sails were furled
In the last haven, or in waves gone down,

Did win from critic landsmen, on the pier,
No plaudits in their strife with wind and sea,
Well-praised if their encouragement might be
The feeble 'God-speed!' of a lonely cheer.

He was of crystal carven that possess'd
The fire of fancy, hateful to the herd
Of functionaries, who have aye preferr'd
Men cast in stucco, fashion'd like the rest.

The cringing of the courtier and the smooth
Supineness of the sycophant he scorn'd;
A life of bitter lessons vainly warn'd
That one who would succeed must learn to soothe.

Small deeds much heralded, poor songs loud sung,
False motives well dissembled, like a shaft,
The breeze of favour to the butt may waft,
Winged by a hand inert from bow ill-strung.

But the tense arrow, drawn unto the head,
That strikes the target with a course more true,
Pierces the centre and is lost to view,
Shall win the prize when target's face be read.

Sleep in thy tent until thou hear the cry
Of the last great muezzin, and the East,
Thy well-beloved Orient, be fleeced
Forever with a rose and silver sky.

To Overcome Weakness. — Pepper's Quinine and Iron Tonic gives New Life, Appetite, Health, Strength, Energy. Cures Neuralgia, Indigestion, Nerve Debility. Specially useful in hot, depressing climates or malarious districts. Everyone should keep up strength by taking Pepper's Quinine, the world-known English Tonic. Bottles everywhere. (1)

Amusements.

SPORTING.

SATURDAY'S HUNT.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

The S.P.H.C. took it at the flood on Saturday last; let us hope the fortune will follow. It is a long time since the start has been at the Two-mile Bridge, the nearest point that it is now possible for riders to enter the country. Punctually at 3.30 the Master despatched about thirty riders on what will be remembered as the wettest hunt for many a day. The foxes were Messrs. George Dallas and Middleton, the winners of the light and heavy weight prizes in the previous hunt. Less steeplechasing was noticeable than usual, owing to the paper being somewhat thinly laid, which with the slight breeze blowing made it hard to find.

Commencing with the three small dry jumps at the start, the paper lay across the back on to the Little Round and then led towards the Island Loop. Here the water in the tidal creek, which must have risen two or three feet after the foxes passed, looked anything but tempting, and the first to attack it was my old friend Mr. Malherbe, if I mistake not the only son of *La Belle France* who really competes in our hunts, and one of the pluckiest riders on the roll of the S.P.H.C., but a cold bath awaited him when crossing this "one wide river," for the pony fell on trying to scramble up the other bank, and for a moment or two Mr. Malherbe disappeared. He however scrambled out, caught his pony, and was the first under way for the big island jumps. I have heard it said that such big jumps are not taken now as in the old days; what a lot the old days have to answer for! How often we hear a yarn commence "Away back in the sixties," or "In the old days," always a sure sign that something startling is coming. Great Scott, how they used to ride "in the old days;" I often think some of their enormous jumps must have been taken when the walnuts and the wine were circulating. "Ha, Ha, my Boy, those were days, those were." Well, well, it's a treat to hear these good old yarns, especially at this season of the year, from good old sportsmen, and as we get on in years when we are sitting with our feet under some old friend's mahogany we shall doubtless relate too how we jumped a chasm with three men in it "in the old days," or something quite as far-fetched. But I am off the scent and must hark back to that "one wide river" and the Island jumps. After the ducking the wall had to be negotiated and then those two well-known obstacles that really need jumping. The bulk of the ponies cleared them in grand style, and then tracks were made for the Cow Bridge, after crossing which the paper led to the back of the new filature, then curving to the left the Tunsin line was taken, but the "tricky" run down near the bridge at the top caused a quantity of grief, and it is questionable if such an objectionable corner so near home should be given; still it is all hunting, and riders should be on the *qui vive* and not rush headlong at an unjumpable chasm. The run home from this point was about a quarter of a mile, and the first to appear in sight were Messrs. Perrott and Midwood on *Magician* and *Auctioneer* respectively. I cannot say that the way in which these ponies were ridden at the last jump was very artistic, the approach to the jump, which by the way is not a very large one, is down hill, and that being the case the ponies should have been "steadied" as they approached, instead of their riders bustling them along for all they were worth and above all with loose reins. Mr. Burkill was the

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third to appear, but his pony pecking a bit jumped short; Mr. H. Sampson close at his heels failed to negotiate the jump satisfactorily, and by this time Messrs. Perrott and Midwood again appeared on the scene, the result being that the latter gentleman got home first by half a length. The following is the official record of the finish:—

Mr. Midwood	on	*Auctioneer.*
,, Perrott	,,	*Magician.*
,, A.W.Burkill	,,	*Snorter.*
,, H. Sampson	,,	A Griffin.
,, Crosthwaite	,,	*Careless.*
,, Baxter	,,	*St. Dunstan.*

THE CHRISTMAS DAY HUNT.

A good deal of water will go under the bridges before a more enjoyable run is given by the S.P.H.C. than this year's Christmas hunt. The paper was laid by the Master, assisted by Messrs. Ayscough and Crawford, and again owing to a stiffish breeze blowing it was difficult to keep the paper on the ground. Of all the hunts given during the season, the Christmas day run is the most popular; all ponies, as well as riders, are qualified and the members are bent on having a good time. In addition to this there is the very kind invitation from Mr. Hogg to all members of the S.P.H.C. and their friends to visit Unkaza after the finish. So great a crowd to watch the proceedings over the last jump has never been known in the annals of paper hunting; in fact as far as Chinese went never have half the quantity been seen at a finish. Mr. Dudgeon shortly after 3.30 sent away one of the biggest fields we have had this season, and the course led over Mr. Shaw's jumps on the foreshore up the bank of the creek, then to the left, crossing the back road by Del Monte, from there over the Bubbling Well road, past Brownie's Finish to the stone bridge; then the corner jump was the next prominent mark, followed by a run down, and after this the jump named after one of our prominent residents was negotiated, then over a bridge and a good jump to the right, and then a straight line up the flat to Blydenburgh's Turn. Leaving the Sicawei Road the scent ran down the False Fah Wah line, doubled back down the Fah Wah line proper, and then down to the tidal creek. Here the paper led back up the Jessfield line, at the end of which a slight curve was taken to the left on to the high ground round to the joss house, through a run down over a made jump and then sharp to the right to the finish. In my sporting notes which appeared on Saturday morning I wrote: "But yet I fear that paper hunting has changed very greatly during the past years and hardly for the better. There is a great deal less hunting of paper and a great deal more steeplechasing than there used to be, etc., etc.," This remark could not have been better illustrated than by the finish of this hunt. Mr. Midwood, one of our best riders and lightest weights, was put up on what on his performances I must class as our crack steeplechase and paper hunt pony *Camptown*, his owner preferring to stand down. The rider of *Camptown* did not at the finish hunt paper and on this account went the wrong course. He was the first to finish over the last jump, but does not claim the hunt owing to the mistake made. Mr. Middleton on *Kingcraft* is therefore the winner and he was followed home by

Mr. Dallas	on	*Maloja.*
,, Baxter	,,	*Kismet.*
,, Perrott	,,	*Magician.*
,, Davies	,,	*Privateer.*
,, Brutton	,,	*Quicksilver.*

It is a great pity that what would otherwise have been a most successful hunt was upset by the leading pony three-quarters of a mile from home going the wrong course, and I feel sure no one regrets the occurrence more than Mr. Midwood. The error of judgment will I hope bring about good results. Had the finish been Daly's cuts, the Tidal Creek, or any of the well known finishing jumps, the mistake would not have occurred, but the moment a new finish is laid a mistake is made, thus proving as I have already said that now-a-days paper-hunting does not mean hunting paper.

DAYBREAK.

S. V. A.

MONTHLY CUP.

The Monthly Cup was competed for on Saturday morning at 400 and 500 yards, and was won by Serg. Macdonald for the second time in succession. It now becomes his own property. Scores:—

	400 yds.	500 yds.	Tl.
Serg. Macdonald	5551455-33	4534 25-28	61
Gun. Grimes	4344545-29	3435335-26	55
Corp. Wilson	5544422-26	2452555-28	54
Gun. Ross	4453555-31	02225 5-21	52
,, Culshaw	5454455-32	4243034-20	52
Bomb. Crank	5542543-28	4203343-19	47
Corp. Murphy	3234355-25	0424334-20	45
Driv. Swanstrom	2304325-19	2442525-24	43
Gun. Horley	5545555-34	0002223- 9	43
Gun. McDonald	2234445-21	4423224-21	42

SHANGHAI FOOTBALL CLUB.

The match under Association rules against the *Caroline* which took place on Wednesday afternoon, resulted in a win for the home team by three goals to nil. The game throughout was fast, but it was easily discernible that more practice would greatly improve the play of both sides. The goals were obtained by A. E. Cooper, A. J. Drew, and H. C. Pearce, the latter securing his goal by a good pass from H. A. Stewart. For the *Caroline* all played up well, especially their back who distinguished himself, and managed to stay on several occasions the onslaught of the S.F.C. forwards.

LEATHER.

Correspondence.

A LIGHT ON THE OPIUM QUESTION FROM A NEW QUARTER.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Your recent and highly interesting reprint from the *Hindu Patriot* under the heading of "Opium Smoking and Life Assurance" induces me to call your attention to the letter as by copy at foot which, now more than ten years ago, I received from a correspondent of mine in Lima with whom, in my then quality of a commission merchant, I had been doing an extensive business in both Persian and Turkey opium from London, exclusively for the use of the numerous Chinese coolies employed on the cotton and sugar plantations of Peru.

Considering that the employers of these coolies had to pay down a good round lump sum for the peculiar contracts under which these labourers were taken over to Peru from Macao at that time, and that consequently they had every inducement to get as much work out of them as possible, it seemed all the more striking to me that, far from trying to place any obstacles in the way of this so-called pernicious drug, they actually should have taken into their own hands the regular supply of it because the very remoteness of their "haciendas" from the different coast-ports would have rendered it comparatively easy work for them to even entirely prevent any indulgence in the deadly drug.

At the time this letter was written *no* Indian opium whatever was exported to Peru so that our worthy anti-opium angels, as I am wont to call them, could not possibly have found any fault with the Indian Government about this particular branch of the pernicious business which, without the help of any cannon or bayonet, simply sprang up in the usual way, i.e., that any existing demand, as soon as discovered, naturally will lead to its earliest possible supply.

In face of the undeniable fact that, between the present adverse silver-exchange and the ever-increasing home production of the article in China, the Indian drug is slowly, but surely going to be driven out of the Chinese markets, I am at a complete loss to understand how this purely sentimental agitation can be kept up any longer by thinking men, both to the damage of their own Government and under circumstances so totally different now from those of forty and more years ago when the home production out here can have been only a fraction of what it is now.

It also remains a standing riddle to me what opium ever could have had or can have to do with the propagation of Christianity, except that from my own personal experience, I can assure these wonderfully persistent agitators that the combined efforts of a thousand missionaries never would succeed in winning over to Christianity a single one of my numerous, thoroughly wide-awake, and most agreeable "opium smoking" Chinese colleagues in the diplomatic line, not one of whom I ever have seen the worse for this particular habit, and far less yet drunk in our sense of the word, which is more than what I could say of some of my good old friends at home in whose behalf, however, I must add yet a most sincere "honi soit qui mal y pense," since in their very midst, now some forty years ago, I very often sang our "Wer niemals einen Rausch gehabt der ist kein braver Mann!"

I am, etc.,

H. H. SULTZBERGER.

27th December.

COPY OF THE LETTER.

Lima, 24th June, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—Replying to your private letter I have to say that, as far as my practical experience goes with our Celestial customers, I do not believe they are the worse, either physically or mentally, for their habit of smoking opium, except in very rare cases where, through excess, the habit has developed into real vice.

I have on many occasions discussed this question with the leading Chinese merchants of Peru and I always have been assured by them that the habit is not deleterious.

Employers of Chinese labourers all along the Peruvian coast allow their men a moderate use of the drug and facilitate even its sale to them, which they certainly would not do if it impaired their energies.

In my own opinion the use of opium by the Chinese can be fairly compared with the use of tobacco by Europeans.

Yours faithfully,

G. A. B.

Miscellaneous.

MISSION WORK AS IT SHOULD NOT BE.

The following is a retranslation from the Swedish *Official Gazette* of a portion of a despatch from Mr. N. R. O'Conor, British Minister at Peking, to his Government, which Lord Rosebery directed the British Envoy and Minister at Stockholm to communicate to the Swedish Government:—

"I believe it to my duty to mention that it has been stated in the papers that

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200 Swedish missionaries are on their way to China, of whom some are, as far as I know, connected with the "China Inland Mission." I have not heard of how many have arrived, but about two months ago, twenty-four young Swedish men and women arrived at Peking. I believe they were quite unacquainted with the language and customs of the country and hardly furnished with sufficient means to provide for the most indispensable necessaries of life. After a short stay at Peking they continued their way inland in two parties, and, I am told, that they had adopted much of the style of the Salvation Army, so much at least, that by singing hymns and playing on all kinds of stringed instruments they attracted attention in the towns and villages which they proceeded through. Their behaviour has naturally created considerable uneasiness among the different mission societies of North China, and great fear is entertained lest it may lead to a repetition of such outrages as are now reported from Machêng.

"In any case it seems only right that the Swedish Government should be made aware of the prevalent danger, and of the want of thought which people display who induce persons to undertake mission work in such dangerous conditions."

THE SHANGHAI PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The distribution of prizes to the pupils of the above school took place on Saturday afternoon in the Masonic Hall in the presence of a large number of people. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Hannen and the recipients received great applause from their schoolmates. The walls of the Hall were tastefully decorated with flags. The platform was occupied by Mr. N. J. Hannen, H.M.'s Consul-General and Chief Justice, and Mrs. Hannen, Mr. and Mrs. Wermuth, Mr. J. L. Scott, and one or two others.

Mr. J. L. Scott, Chairman of the Municipal Council and member of the Educational Committee, presided, and in his speech said:—

Ladies and Gentlemen. The object of our meeting being as you are well aware, the annual distribution of prizes, I will not delay the real business of the afternoon for more than a few moments while I say how much pleasure it gives me to be here to-day and to congratulate those boys and girls who are about to receive the reward of their industry, in the prizes which Mrs. Hannen has kindly consented to distribute. It is needless for me to dwell on the important part which education plays in our lives—that is too well known to require any remarks, but I might point out that in these days of competition and stiff examinations, the uneducated must go to the wall, and therefore we who are concerned in the welfare of Shanghai feel it incumbent upon us to give the children the best instruction possible, and I think I may say that the Trustees of this school are doing all they can at the present time to secure for them an excellent training, on the most reasonable terms. To help Mr. and Mrs. Lanning and their assistants, to whom our best thanks are due for their zealous care for the interests of the school, an experienced lady teacher has just arrived from England, and we feel sure that this addition to the staff will do much to increase the results of its working. But we must have support, and it is to you, fathers and mothers, that we look to meet us half way, and give your children all the advantages which we are endeavouring to secure for them, and to you boys and girls I would say also, that all our efforts will be well-nigh wasted unless you too do your part in assisting us. Remember that the future of Shanghai to no small extent lies in your hands, and therefore do your utmost to benefit by the instruction provided for you, so that while you are here you may be a credit to your teachers, and afterwards, when your time comes to be men and women, you will be ready to play a useful and honourable part in the well-being either of this great settlement, or of whatever place in this wide world your lot may happen to be cast. (Cheers.)

The programme was then proceeded with, the kindergarten songs of the younger pupils being much appreciated.

PROGRAMME.

1.—Overture—
"Lustspiel".....Mrs. Petersen and Master G. F. Lanning.
2.—Address.....The Chairman.
3. The Jubilee Song (by request)...Scholars.
4. The Canadian Boat Song..... "
5.—Violin Solo—
"The Bohemian Girl" Miss Connie Sharples.
6.—Kindergarten Songs.....Scholars.
7.—Piano Solo—
"Abend Gruss" .....Miss F. Rogerson.
8.—Head Master's Report and Presentation of Prizes.
9.—Song—
"The Vesper Hymn" .....Scholars.
10.—Piano Duet
"Valses Alsacienne" { Misses M. Rogerson & Ellie Goodfellow.
11.—Song—
"The Shanghai Volunteers .....Scholars.

In presenting his report Mr. Lanning, the head-master, said he supposed the audience would like to hear a few facts in connection with the School, as they were all interested in it, and many of them just as much interested as he was himself. In the first place he had to congratulate them and the community in general upon the excellent educational committee appointed by the Council. His experience of committees in Shanghai, which extended over a considerable number of years, was that the greater part of them did nothing, but that objection could not be taken to the Educational Committee who were looking after the Public School. They were working very hard indeed to bring the institution up to a high standard, and were doing everything they could to improve it still further. To be a member of the Educational Committee was to hold no sinecure, and the patience and perseverance with which the Hon. Secretary had worried him (Mr. Lanning) for returns and so on, during the past year, were beyond all praise. The next point to mention was that the number of pupils was increasing as rapidly as could be expected. They were now within measurable distance of having 200 scholars—a very large increase since he had to make his last report. He might take the opportunity of thanking the ladies and gentlemen of the staff for the way they had worked during the year. It was proposed to start an athletic club for the boys, with a branch for girls; but it would not be done yet. It would include cricket, boating, football and all sorts of outdoor exercises. This year they had only the swimming club which had continued to flourish; and there was no finer sight, at least for him, than a shoal of boys swimming down river,—20 or 30 of them together, like so many porpoises and with the most perfect confidence in themselves. Mr. Lanning alluded to the new corps of cadets, which the pupils are going to form, and he said it must be remembered that there were many of the pupils just as clever as those who received prizes, though they did not get any, and if the parents of the children were satisfied with their progress, he would be happy to award any prizes they might give.

He then read out the list of successful candidates as follows:—

1.—The Zion Chapter Scholarship—
Scholars recommended
John Möller; Archie Nazer.
2.—The St. Andrew's Bursary—
Scholar recommended
Richard Graham.
3.—The Colin Jamieson Memorial Prize—
Awarded by the Commissioner of Customs to Axel Kindblad.
4.—The Shorthand Prizes; presented by D. C. Jansen Esq.—
Awarded to Charles Gram, and Florrie Rogerson.

SCHOOL PRIZES.

Girls' Department.

Class I.— { Connie Sharples, Esther Sayle, Lily Milley, Mary Rogerson.
" II.— { Nellie Manning, Mabel Nazar, Ellie Goodfellow, H. Scheppelmann.
" III.— { Lily Graham, Bella Ferrier, A. Goodfellow, Mabel Limby.

Boys' Department.

Form. 6.—Thos. Veitch and C. Winsor.
" 5a.—John Bonnell and Alfred Kindblad.
" 5b.—Willie Williams and Fritz Land.
" 4.—Theodore Moorehead, Willie Andrew, Charles Krugh, and Gussy White.
" 3.—John Maitland, Francis Senna, Alec. Clements, and Louis Golding.
" 2a.—H. B. Endicott, Willie Wallace, Dede Andersen, and Alec. Ottomeier.
" 2b.—A. Robinson, Willis Gande, W. Reid, Theodore Davis, and S. Limby.

The little children of the kindergarten and lower divisions each received a present of a picture book.

THE CHEFOO LOCAL POST OFFICE.

A well attended public meeting in connection with the Local Post Office was held at the Beach Hotel on the 21st of December, the following gentlemen being present:—Messrs. C. F. R. Allen (Chairman), E. F. Allan, Augustesen, Rev. H. J. Brown, M. Boyd Bredon, Block, H. J. Clark, E. E. Clark, Dr. Corbett, Cornwell, Calender, Dr. Douthwaite, Edgar, Hayes, Hansen, Jackson, Dr. Lenz, Lavers, Lay, Mullen, McMullan, Parkhill, Pym, Stooke, A. Silverthorne, Shirasu, Smith, Tomalin, Dr. Von Tunzelmann, and Wake.

The accounts showing a substantial credit balance were passed by the meeting and an arrangement come to for the application of the available funds. The report of the Committee stated that about 30,000 letters, etc., had passed through the Local Post Office since its opening in June last. The following gentlemen were elected as the Committee for 1894:—Messrs. M. Boyd Bredon, Hansen, Lavers, Stooke, and Wake.

Chefoo, 22nd December.

THE YANGTZEPOO COTTON MILLS.

The following is a translation of the petition of H.E. Shêng Taotai of Tientsin to the Viceroy Li with reference to the reconstruction of the recently burnt Cotton Cloth Mills at Yangtzepoo:—

The petitioning Taotai begs to acknowledge receipt of the Viceroy's despatch on the 26th of November, announcing the burning of the Yangtzepoo Cotton Cloth Mills and commanding him to send deputies to Shanghai, to act in conjunction with the local authorities, to value the remnants of the machinery, *débris* of the mills, and the ground, and also, in consideration of there being but little to do in matters relating to foreign affairs during the closing of navigation at Tientsin, ordering the petitioner to proceed in person to Shanghai to see to the reconstruction of the mills in conjunction with the Shanghai Taotai Nieh. The petitioner is also commanded to consult with the gentry and merchants who had an interest in the

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mills, and to get their assistance in clearing up matters and also to procure funds for the reconstruction of new mills, if possible on a larger scale than before.

With reference to the above, petitioner is of the opinion that in order to succeed in procuring the requisite funds it is first necessary to settle the accounts of the mills, before doing anything else, and this step will at once put a stop to rumours amongst merchants and the gentry, detrimental to the object in view. According to the accounts presented by the manager of the mills, Yang Taotai, the cloth and money saved from the mills are just about enough to pay sundry debts owed by the mill authorities. As to the capital of the old concern, this consisted of Tls. 265,390 lent by the government, and Tls. 554,900 subscribed by merchants and the gentry. In addition to these there were deposited in the concern Tls. 80,000 by the Jardine Chinese Insurance Company, and Tls. 20,000 from the Shanghai Taotai's treasury, deposited there by the former Taotai Kung Chao-yuan, on interest. Then also there is a sum of about Tls. 150,000, advanced by the former manager Yang, under the name of Yang Ngau-chi. Further, a telegram to the petitioner from Shên Taotai of the China Merchants' and the expectant prefect Yang of the Chinese Telegraph Administration, states that there now remains only the site of the mills, the houses of the master workmen, and machinery, boilers, and odds and ends of iron and steel, damaged by the fire. The value of these, in petitioner's opinion, must be small. It is therefore petitioner's intention, upon arrival at Shanghai, to obey the Viceroy's instructions to act in conjunction with the Shanghai Taotai, and also to engage certain upright native and foreign gentlemen to act as valuers of the remnants, and apply the funds in payment of the creditors of the old mills, according to proportion, but as to how the funds are to be paid, petitioner must first request the instructions of the Viceroy. According to immemorial custom in China, if anything fatal happens to a salt monopolist or pawnbroking concern, the first thing to be done is to pay the government deposits before any other debt. In this instance the government funds amount to Tls. 256,000 odd. If the whole of the proceeds of the sale of the mill site and damaged machinery, etc., were applied to repaying government, the total thus obtained would be insufficient to pay the debt. Moreover, if this step should be recommended, petitioner is sure that the mercantile portion of the shareholders would certainly feel aggrieved by it. On investigation petitioner finds that the merchants and gentry willingly took shares at the time on the strength of the Viceroy's instructions and countenance, but for ten years they have not received any interest. On the old shares, Tls. 70 per share at first was paid, then another call of Tls. 30 per share was made, the total thus subscribed being Tls. 334,900 on the new call. New shares were subscribed for at the instance of the Viceroy, by the China Merchants' and Chinese Insurance companies. These amounted to Tls. 200,000. In addition there was the sum of Tls. 20,000 paid by the former Tientsin Customs Taotai Liu, which was also turned into shares. Subsequently another sum of Tls. 300,000 was lent the mills on interest by the China Merchants' and the Chinese Insurance companies at the orders of the Viceroy, and shares were afterwards given these companies at the rate of Tls. 22, leaving a balance of Tls. 80,000 still placed at interest. The former Taotai Kung Chao-yuan also paid Tls. 20,000, at the instance of the Viceroy, to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, on behalf of machinery belonging to the mills. Thus it will be seen that what may be styled the mercantile and gentry shares were subscribed in answer to calls from the government and cannot bear comparison with pawnbrokers, who borrow government money for their own advantage. Petitioner therefore thinks that their case merits consideration, and he would advise that the result of the valuation of the mill property should be proportionately paid to the holders of old shares alone. On the basis of these claims, therefore, petitioner, intends to deal out new shares in the new mills to be constructed, so that old shareholders may have the advantage arising from the money to be made by the new mills. As to repayment of the government claims, petitioner advises that the authorities should wait until the new mills are running, when the sum of one tael should be collected on each bale of yarn produced, and the money thus collected be paid to government in gradual liquidation of the claims. Chinese merchants will doubtless be grateful for this instance of special grace of the Viceroy and no one in future will have reason for complaint.

The above opinion has been arrived at by the petitioning Taotai after mature deliberation, and he requests the consent and approbation of the Viceroy. Petitioner also intends, upon arrival at Shanghai, to proceed at once with rebuilding on the old site, and will hasten the work of repairing the machinery, etc., in order that the new mills may be put on a working basis as soon as possible.

(Sd) Sheng Hsuan-huai.

30th November.

The rescript of Viceroy Li dated 4th December, approves *in toto* the suggestions of the above petition, that the proceeds of the old mills and grounds should be apportioned to the mercantile holders of shares to the amount of Tls. 554,900, plus Tls. 100,000 deposited on interest in the old mills, while the government claims borrowed from the Peiyang funds, of Tls. 265,390, are to be paid back gradually by a tax of one tael per bale of yarn turned out by the new mills.

The above petition was also presented to the Superintendent of Trade for the Southern ports, H.E. Liu K'un-yi, at Nanking, and His Excellency's rescript, while approving in the same way as the Viceroy Li's, calls the recent burning of the mills "a disaster from heaven" and absolves entirely the manager Yang Ngau-fang from blame.

SPORTING.

"A southerly wind and a cloudy sky,
Proclaim it a hunting morning."

These lines, I believe, refer to Leicestershire, but as a rule things go the reverse way in China, so if I change the first line to

"A northerly wind and a bright blue sky,"

I should more correctly name the weather that we have had to make our hunting fit in with this year. Rain, until the trifling shower yesterday, has now been conspicuous by its absence since the beginning of November; hence the blinding dust; but even in spite of this it is a healthy sign of the times to see the grand old English sport as keenly followed as ever. Hunting, the Sport of Kings! What would Shanghai be without it? What better antidote could be prescribed for the ills that flesh is heir to than a gallop on a Saturday afternoon with 30 or 40 Members of the S.P.H.C., all well mounted and "on business," and as "keen as mustard" on getting home in the first six. Scarcely has the Master given the starting signal than "best to win" is the motto, ponies as well as riders enjoy the bracing atmosphere and the delightful gallop, and to add to the excitement of the run is the harmless chaff that at times creeps in and the many funny incidents that must and do occur in every hunt. Away we fly from one line of jumps to another, till at last a check gives breathing time, but close at hand is heard the welcome "Tally-Ho," and now the excitement increases in real earnest, for we are shaping towards the finish. No dilly-dallying now; it has suddenly dawned on all that to be in the first six the best leg must be put forward, "now for the honour of England," as Jack Mytton would put it, and here is where paper hunting takes the precedence of all cross-country riding. Who that has ever been well mounted can forget the feeling experienced during that last ten minutes of a really good run? All the good qualities that make men men are brought into play, and at a glance a good rider has to take in the capabilities of his competitors as well as thoroughly understand the animal underneath him. What can beat the race home in such company as those that have finished in the first six this season—*Camptown*, *Bendigo*, *Maloja*, *Smuggler*, *Buccaneer*, *Raceland*, *Quicksilver*, *Magician*, *Maypole*, *Careless*, *Guarantee*, *Auctioneer*, *Kingcraft*, and *Haphazard*? Amongst such aristocrats as these the making of that well timed effort that turns defeat into victory is an event that one can look back on with pleasure and pride through a lifetime.

But yet I fear that paper hunting has changed very greatly during the past years, and hardly for the better. There is a great deal less hunting of paper and a great deal more steeplechasing than there used to be; with the increase of riding many more men know the country better, and consequently the pace is faster. In fact, to win a hunt nowadays one has to ride a pony certainly not further removed than first cousin from a racehorse, and if he intends to have his name on the card at the finish he must be a featherweight into the bargain. How many times in the old days have I seen the heavy weights pretty well trotting the first half of the hunt, with a view to having something in hand between the last check and the finish. "Weight will tell," and "It's the pace that kills," were maxims that it paid a welter weight to follow in times past, but now paper hunting is more like steeplechasing; checks may be laid and laid most carefully but riders at the sound of "no paper" know that if the fox has not gone down that line he must have forded the creek to the left, or have crossed by the joss-house on the right, and quicker than thought a batch of riders steers for each of the only ways he could possibly have gone, so the good intentions of the fox in bringing the field together and giving the tired ones a breather before the final burst for home is of no avail.

Referring to the past three hunts, the old ponies still hold their own and are as good as ever. *Camptown*, the winner of the first hunt, could not look or go better, and stands an A1 chance of again winning the Club Challenge Cup. *Bendigo*, upon whom age sits lightly, romps along as he likes and wants no more looking after than a baby when sound asleep. *Maloja*, also another veteran, is as fond of the game as ever and still as handy as a lady's maid. *Kingcraft*, that prince of weight-carriers, still retains his marvellous qualities and seems to be cantering when others are galloping. *Privateer* I must also mention as one of the top-sawyers who is quite up to his old form. What a string to have in one's stable? Any of them are worth backing "till the cows come home." Of the new blood I must first mention *Buccaneer*, the winner of the heavy weights in the first hunt, and a scarlet coat into the bargain. From all accounts this pony can stay for a week, and if he had been hard-pushed could have won the first hunt outright.

Next in quality of the new division I must refer to *Maypole*, a raw griffin of this

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season, who in the two hunts in which he has started has got home third and fifth with a fairly heavy weight on him. Next in quality comes *Auctioneer*, a rather "peacocky" customer. Since the Races he has thickened considerably; he could jump a church if he liked, but I have my doubts about his staying powers when called on for the supreme effort at the end of a long run.

With the hard state of the ground it is not to be wondered at that the chapter of accidents is a lengthy one, but I am glad to hear that in many cases the indisposition has been only temporary. I refrain from going into further particulars as regards the other ponies that have run well up in the hunts this season, as I hope to refer to them before the Handicap, by which time I shall have a better chance of judging their capabilities.

The members of the S.P.H.C. and Hounds are as usual suffering from the vagaries of the "footy-man-a-horse." All his eccentricities these Clubs have to suffer for, and he probably subscribes to neither, nor even to the Cross Country Riding Fund. At any and every start and finish he is very much in evidence, booted and spurred, and as a rule in the middle of the nearest cabbage garden, in which he at once commences to turn round a few times. I have noticed this more than once this season, and in cabbage gardens as neatly kept as the flower beds on a private lawn, and quite as conspicuous. Again, at the Cow Bridge, our footy friend would no more dream of riding along the path provided for him instead of going over the lucern than of flying. In a paper hunt with a big field, so much dust, and ponies going for all they are worth, it is impossible not to do some damage. This the S.P.H.C. pay for, and the country people to a certain extent understand it, but what they and hunting men in particular do not understand is the escapades of the "footy-man-a-horse" referred to above.

The Cross-Country Riding Fund has been doing most useful work and promises exceedingly well for the future. From what I can hear the natives in many places are beginning to think that there is something to be gained by the foreigner riding over their land. Bridges have in many places been put in order, wades have been improved, and creeks that were before impassable made into decent sized jumps. Compared with last year nothing like as many holes have been dug by the villagers; in fact the country people and riding men have not been on such familiar terms for many a day. That this was not so before I attribute to the behaviour of the native who in previous years acted for the S.P.H.C. Money for reeds cut, and damage done to gardens, etc., I am afraid did not get beyond this gentleman's pocket, for this year, as regards cutting reeds there has been no trouble at all, and before, where a small hole was cut giving room for only one pony to pass, now sufficient space is cleared for three or four to go abreast. The countryman is quite aware that the foreigner is going to ride over his land, and where there are no gardens he does not object; if by his cutting reeds or building up a jump he can make a little money he considers himself a lucky man and in his own sweet way is thankful to the Cross Country Riding Fund. So far the only district where any opposition has been met has been Fahwah. In time no doubt this village will be amenable to reason in the shape of a dollar or two in remuneration for services rendered.

I may specially mention here that the Cross-Country Riding Fund is in the hands of the Masters of the S.P.H.C., and the Hounds, either of whom will be glad to receive any amount, say from a dollar upwards, that riding men may wish to subscribe. The object of the Fund is to put bridges, jumps and wades in order, and any suggestions that can be made with a view to bringing this about, either of the above-named gentlemen will be glad to receive.

RACING.

As regards the ponies under orders for the South, I hear that the fleet of griffins pretty well consists of the following. Lieutenant Taylor's greyish roan, who did his mile and a half in 3.22½, light weight up and with shoes off. Mr. Buxey has a couple of tried griffins, purchased from Loongfei, one a greyish roan credited with having done his mile and a quarter in 2 49 and a grey who galloped the ¾ mile in 1.37½; this pony was rejected as a subscription griffin. Ewo has the kept-over *Bandmaster*, a *Determination* dun with stringhalt, and a light flashy grey; at the moment I cannot imagine any of this trio being dangerous for the Derby. Taiwo in buying a paper hunter has struck oil in the shape of a pony that reminds me of *Arabic*; he is said to have done his mile in 2.13. The owner of *Black Pearl* has secured another flyer, a flea-bitten grey, who shows signs of again bringing the colours to the front. His trial for 1¼ mile was done in 2.46¼. Mr. Humphreys has a string of griffins, but I cannot say anything as to their merits. The "Old Sportsman" when he was here purchased a fine upstanding chestnut, and if make and shape go for anything he should be fairly in it.

Of the griffins that are reported not to be going South, the Big Stable has purchased a mob of about 30. Out of the lot only three show any promise, a grey, a *Suswind* dun, and a small brown. Mr. Middy is the owner of a spotted roan, one of the finest built ponies I have seen for many a day; he gallops with beautiful, low-level, action even though carrying a crushing weight. The only time he has ventured on a mile and a-half he had a big weight up, shoes on, and was going alone; his time was 3.25. Should he by chance go to Hongkong he will take Happy Valley by storm. The Hongkew stable has secured another *Currency*, and take my word for it, he's a good pony. Mr. Ring has purchased a *Hero* skewbald, a baldnosed bay, and a *Councillor* grey; all are moving in good style, and so far promise when asked the question to fill the bill.

I was surprised to see the Loongfei auction, comprising the celebrated ponies *Boeril*, *Majestic*, *Beeswing* and *Brigand*, end in a fizzle. *Boeril* was bought in at Tls. 1,000, *Brigand* at Tls. 130, *Majestic* at Tls. 200, and *Beeswing* at Tls. 90. The value I put on these ponies before the sale was as follows, *Boeril*, Tls. 1,500, *Brigand*, Tls. 200, *Majestic*, Tls. 350, and *Beeswing*, Tls. 200. I hear now that the noble owner is going to "see it through" in Hongkong. If I may make a suggestion, why not dispose of the Stud by raffling it at Tls. 10 a chance? More satisfaction would be gained by the owner, I feel certain, by this method—first prize, *Boeril*; second, *Majestic*; third, *Brigand*; fourth, *Beeswing*, and the saddlery, etc., in lots to suit subscribers.

Christmas and New Year; "Here we are again," as the Clown says in the pantomime. I only wish the words could mean that all the friends with whom we exchanged congratulations last year were "here again." Gone away, lads; gone away. Ah, yes, there are indeed many gaps in the ranks, and God's Acre has many less vacant lots than a year ago. But this season of the year we must banish all sad thoughts; the past is past; present and future is the thing.

Brother Sportsmen, I salute you. That this Christmas may be the happiest you have ever spent, and that the coming year may be the brightest and most prosperous you have ever known, is the sincere wish of

DAYBREAK.

NATIVE NOTES.

OFFICIALS REINSTATED.

It will be remembered that some time last year, the then Provincial Treasurer of Anhui, H.E. A-ko-chin-a, a Mongol, was denounced to the Throne just as he was promoted to the Governorship of Shansi, and that upon H.E. Liu K'un-yi having been ordered to investigate this official's conduct, the memorial presented to the Throne on the subject accused A-ko-chin-a only of being a little too fond of show, and a liking of receiving *protégés* under his patronage, naming three taotais, one prefect and two *chehsiens* as the principal ones. The Throne considered this as derogatory to the dignity and independence of official life, and it encouraged carrying favours, and so stripped these officials of their respective ranks, and also took away the post and rank of the presumptive Governor of Shansi. Since the last episode, the *protégés* in question have been very busy in openly paying large sums for famine relief, and this has been the means of bringing to the front again the three taotais mentioned above, Messrs. Yuan Ping-chên, Sung Chün, and Pêng Shou-ch'êu, the first two of whom are well-known to foreigners in Wuhu. In consequence of this there are reports that H.E. Li Hung-chang has already memorialised the Throne to restore their rank with the result that Mr. Sung Chün returns to Anhui in his former capacity of expectant Taotai, while Mr. Yuan is changed to Chêkiang province. This news will be hailed with delight by these gentlemen's many friends in Anhui and Kiangsu.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

H.E. Ts'ui Kuo-yin, ex-Minister to the United States, etc., whose health seems to be still delicate, has decided to stay in the South for yet a while, and has asked H.E. Li Hung-chang to memorialise the Throne praying for another three months' leave of absence for him to restore his health, before presenting himself for audience at Peking to give a personal account of his stewardship abroad. With reference to this an edict of the 24th inst. appoints this official Senior Supervisor of Instruction to the Heir-apparent.

THE TIENTSIN MILITARY ACADEMY.

The students of the Military Academy at Tientsin have been practising fort and entrenchment making, recently, and the results of their handiwork now appear in the shape of two well constructed forts, facing one another, from which frequent sham fights will take place between rival parties of the cadets. The Viceroy is well pleased at the work and industry evinced by these peeps of the future armies of China.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

H.E. Jui Chang, Provincial Treasurer of Kiangning or Northern Kiangsu, having completed his third year of office, has asked to be allowed an Imperial audience with the opening of navigation next year. There is every likelihood that His Excellency will be sent back to Nanking for a second term of office, after he has seen His Majesty next spring.

RESURRECTED.

On Saturday a man, meanly attired, was found lying on a raft by the riverside of North Lucy, in a comatose state, and the finders thinking him dead notified the *tipao* who procured a pineboard coffin from one of the neighbouring charitable institutions to put the supposed defunct in it. But just as the cover was about to be nailed down, a groan from the depths startled the *tipao* and his men, who threw down nails and hammer and were about to scamper off, when the supposed corpse hailed them stating that he was not dead, but had been on a grand spree the day before, and finding the raft conveniently handy had laid

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himself down for a quiet nap. The coffin was returned.

ABDUCTION IN PEKING.

An audacious attempt at abduction took place the other day at Peking. A young girl belonging to the middle classes happening to suit the fancy of a well-known rowdy, he got together a band of men and suddenly appearing at the girl's house forcibly carried her into a cart and then made off. The father of the young girl, however, managed to rouse his neighbours to give pursuit, and at last succeeded in overtaking the abductors just as they were leaving the city. Most of the latter were captured and have been handed over to the Board of Punishments, much indignation being felt at the attempt at abducting in broad daylight.

FIRE AT WUHU.

Nothing proves so likely to excite suspicion in the minds of the masses of a country as an attempt at secrecy in the actions of an organised body of persons. And this rules holds, we may be sure, very strongly where the Roman Catholic Church and the Chinese in this country are concerned. An example of this has but recently happened at Wuhu which has aggravated, if nothing more, the feeling of suspicion and dislike all along entertained by the natives against the dwellers in the Roman Catholic compound near the settlements. So writes a native correspondent of the *Shênpao*. It seems that on the morning of the 16th instant at one a.m. flames were observed to be issuing from the carpenters' sheds in the Roman Catholic compound where the imposing looking and massive church of white marble and stone was being rebuilt after the riot of 1891. The alarm was immediately given by the Chinese watchmen going their rounds outside the compound, and a body of men from the disciplined Chinese battalion near by with a number of Chinese manual fire engines soon came rushing to the spot eager to assists in putting out the fire. The Taotai of Wuhu also, and all his subordinate officers, came shortly afterwards to prevent by their presence any attempt at riot or robbery as usually the case in such instances; but to the surprise of all, the priests and fathers in the burning compound resolutely shut the big gates and refused permission to any one to enter, although this was on a mission of charity. The amazed looks upon the face of the Chinese officials including General T'an of the disciplined regiment, as they gazed blankly at each other, in front of the compound gates, shut square in their faces, was a tableau in itself. At last finding that assistance was not wanted from them, and yet anxious to do something, General T'an ordered 200 of his men to form a cordon around the compound to keep off the mob, while the fire engines were turned to a piece of high ground outside the compound walls, where streams of water were sent over into the burning buildings inside. As might be expected, very little could be done under the circumstances, so the fire inside the compound kept on burning until past 3 o'clock that morning, destroying a considerable part of the newly built church as well as materials to be used on it. It perhaps is unnecessary to write what the mass of Chinese at Wuhu think of this strange conduct of the Roman Catholics, suffice it to say that the former think that there must be something very important in the compound which the latter are anxious the natives should not see, to result in a point blank refusal of aid from persons willing to render it.—There is no doubt some perfectly simple explanation of this.

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THE BURMO-CHINESE FRONTIER.

Although a Rangoon paper states with some confidence that the Burmo-Chinese Frontier question is practically settled, it would be rash to suppose that the protracted negotiations on this subject are nearing an end. It may be true that the most important points at issue have been settled to the satisfaction of both parties; but so long as any difference, however trivial, exists, it may become the subject of many years' diplomatic correspondence. We have seen in the case of Sikhim and Tibet how well Chinese methods lend themselves to delay, and although the Chinese are no doubt as anxious as ourselves to avoid complications on the Burma frontier, the settlement of the principal points of difficulty may be only a small stage towards the conclusion of an agreement. The negotiations emphasise the fact that China is not a factor to be despised in the settlement of the Indo-Chinese question. The Shan States which touch the borders of Yunnan are from ethnological reasons more or less under Chinese influence. The bulk of the inhabitants are descendants of what one ethnologist terms the numerous aboriginal tribes of Western and Central China, who had been compelled to take refuge in these parts by "the advancing tide of Chinese invasion." However ethnologists may disagree as to the true origin of the people who inhabit Indo-China, there is little doubt that the Shans and the Annamese and neighbouring people are from Chinese stocks. The Shans have always had a vague respect for China, though their territories have been a refuge for the Rob Roys of the Chinese and old Burmese border. Sprawled over the map of Upper Burma and Siam, the Shans and their kindred have brought us into contact with China, Siam, and latterly France, and faced us with problems, which may be difficult of solution. So long ago as 1885, a leading London magazine warned China against French designs in Indo-China, recommending her to enter into a substantial agreement with England as to a future frontier policy. We were also told that the mainspring of the French Eastern policy was to humiliate England in the Far East, and that it was necessary for us to show some determination to resist encroachment in Indo-China. "We may laugh," said an eminent writer in a well-known magazine in 1885 "at the idea of a French Empire in the East as being chimerical; but we cannot be indifferent to the mischief that may be done in attempting to establish it. With Cambodia virtually French, and Siam bullied into compliance with French schemes, our trade in Indo-China must inevitably suffer." If in 1885 events in the Indo-China Peninsula were marching so rapidly that "we must be on our guard," it follows that no means should now be neglected to ensure a substantial accommodation with China as to frontier disputes, and that we should take effective measures to check, in so far as is consistent with the generally-expressed opinions of the ruling classes, an aggressive egotistic policy likely to prejudice commerce in Indo-China.—*The Englishman.*

THE WRECK OF THE *CLAN GRANT.*

The steamer *Giang Ann* which arrived at Singapore on the 11th inst. from Batavia brought with her the officers and men of the British barque *Clan Grant* which was lost near Tegal. The *Clan Grant*, the *Straits Times* says, was an iron barque of 1,055 tons, and was registered 100 A.1. The vessel was built in 1878 at Glasgow, and owned by a firm of that port. She left Amoy recently on a voyage to New York with a full cargo of tea, and was making a fair passage, until she got into rough weather in the China Sea. Eventually the vessel struck on a reef, but did not founder. The crew stood by the ship, and it floated in about eight hours. The weather continued to be rough and the vessel, being disabled from the effects of running aground on the reef, drifted in the direction of Batavia and had at last to be abandoned in a sinking condition off Tegal. The crew left the ship on the 1st instant. Soon after, the whole of the ship's crew were safely picked up by the Dutch steamer *Soerabaya* and taken to Batavia. While at Batavia the crew were very hospitably treated by the residents, and a sum of $1,270 was distributed among the shipwrecked men, the money being drawn from the Sailors' Relief Fund at that port. The British Consul at Batavia sent the crew to Singapore for employment. The captain's name is H. A. Treleaven, and E. Tucker is first mate, and W. Nicoll second mate. The crew comprised one carpenter, four apprentices, and twelve seamen. The officers and men are at present staying at the Sailors' Home.

A Court of Enquiry was held, which delivered the following finding:—The Court is of opinion that sufficient caution was exercised in navigating the ship up to the time of striking, and that the captain took proper measures to get her off the reef. He was also right in endeavouring to reach Batavia. The Court, however, is of opinion that he committed an error of judgment in not anchoring on the morning of the 29th November when he found he had drifted to the eastward of Batavia Harbour, instead of bearing up to Cheribon, as he was more likely to get assistance there and would have been able to have beached the ship if necessary. Proper discipline was maintained up to the time of leaving the ship, and the crew appeared to have done all in their power in endeavouring to assist the captain and officers to save the ship.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 23rd December.

Before James Scott, Esq., *Police Magistrate.*

R. v. Horley.

Henry Horley, detective, appeared to answer a summons charging him with having assaulted a Japanese named Nakakita, by striking him with a walking stick on the 18th instant.

Defendant denied the charge. Inspector Reed asked to be allowed to defend the accused, to which his Worship assented.

Complainant stated—I struck a Chinaman about noon on the 18th instant. A Chinese policeman came and said he wanted me to go to the Police Station, but I told him to wait; he would not wait and went away. In about 10 minutes he came back with Mr. Horley, who asked me to go to the Police Station with him. I said I would go but asked Mr. Horley to allow me to go into my house first to put on my coat. He would not allow this and caught me by the sleeve. I complained of the cold and still wanted to be allowed to get my coat, and then the Chinese policeman took hold of me and Mr. Horley struck me on the arms and hands with his walking-stick, cutting me in two places. (Witness produced a certificate signed by Dr. Tanabe, describing the nature of the injuries; and also a shirt, showing some bloodstains on the arms).

Cross-examined by Inspector Reed—Did you and some of your friends on the 18th inst. take a Chinaman into your place and tie his arms and legs with a rope?

Complainant—I did not.

Inspector Reed—Did you not take him into your godown and tie ropes around his

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arms and body?—I do not comprehend wherefore to speak of that now.

His Worship—You must answer, please. Did you touch that man?—I struck him.

Inspector Reed—Did you put a rope round his neck?—I do not know.

Inspector Reed—Were there many of your Japanese friends there at the time?—There were two of my esteemed friends.

His Worship—Japanese friends?—Yes.

Inspector Reed—Was there a large crowd of people in the street at the time?—Yes, and there were two Japanese.

Inspector Reed—On the 19th, the day following the assault, were you convicted by the Japanese Consul and fined $3, and were your two friends fined $1 each for assaulting this Chinaman?—This is truthful. I was fined $3, and my two friends $1.

Inspector Reed produced a police charge-sheet on which the charge and conviction by the Japanese Consul were entered.

His Worship—I see by this you were convicted of assaulting and beating this Chinaman and tieing him up with a rope in a house in Nanzing Road. Do you deny tieing him up?—I do not know.

Inspector Reed—Did not two Chinese policemen go to your house whilst the assault on this Chinaman was going on?—Only one, No. 133.

Inspector Reed—And when the policeman attempted to interfere on behalf of this Chinaman, did not you and your friends push him out of the house?—No.

Inspector Reed—When the policeman asked this Chinaman a question, did you not put your hand over his mouth to prevent him answering?—I never have not.

Inspector Reed—You did not?—I did not.

Inspector Reed—And when the Chinese policeman attempted to arrest you, did you not spit on your hands this way, and make as if you were going to strike him?—I never did.

Inspector Reed—How long have you known Detective Horley?—I do not know him at all.

Inspector Reed—When he attempted to arrest you, did you not know he was a policeman?—I did not.

His Worship—Horley told you he wanted you to go to the Station?—Yes.

His Worship—Did you know what he wanted you to go to the Station for?—Yes, for the beating of Chinese.

Inspector Reed—And when he attempted to arrest you, did you not step back and threaten to strike him?—I did not.

Inspector Reed—Did not Detective Horley put up his stick to ward off your blows?—No, I have not resisted Horley.

Complainant had no witness to call.

Defendant stated that at 0.40 p.m. on Monday, he was sent for by the Sergeant on duty in Hongkew Station. When he went down to the charge-room, he saw a Chinaman there with a rope tied round his neck, and a native policeman, who said he tried to arrest some Japanese in Nanzing Road for assaulting the Chinaman, but had not been able to do so. Defendant then went with the Chinaman and the native constable to Nanzing Road, where the Chinaman pointed out complainant as the Japanese who had assaulted him. Defendant then requested complainant to accompany him to the Station, but complainant refused to do so and attempted to strike defendant, who warded off his blows with his stick. Eventually complainant was arrested with the assistance of some native policemen, and was next day fined $3 at the Japanese Consulate for the assault on the Chinaman.

Defendant's story was corroborated by a Chinese police sergeant and two constables, and by an independent witness, a dealer in ballast carrying on business in Nanzing Road.

His Worship dismissed the case.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 26th December.

Before Mr. TSAI, *Magistrate*, and Mr. W. S. EMENS, *U.S. Assessor*.

A carpenter was charged with having in his possession a quantity of timber that did not belong to him. He was ordered to return it and was cautioned. A fine of $2.50 was inflicted on a mafoo for plying for hire without a licence. For returning from deportation, a Taungming islander was ordered to be again deported. A Kiangpeh man, who had three cases of house-breaking against him and had also returned from a previous sentence of deportation, was sentenced to 300 blows and redeportation. A known thief, native of Shanghai, for stealing two pieces of silk clothing and six furs, from the scene of the late fire in Canton Road was sentenced to one month's cangue. A known thief, native of Wusieh, for returning from a sentence of deportation and being in the unlawful possession of a silver watch, was sentenced to 200 blows and to be again deported. A Shanghai man, for gambling in the Hoopeh Road, was sentenced to 7 days' cangue. Two Shanghai men for creating a disturbance in the Foochow Road and assaulting a native policeman, were sentenced respectively to one month's and 2 weeks' imprisonment. Two Quinsan men, who had three larcenies proved against them, and one of them having been previously deported, were sentenced to 200 blows and redeportation and deportation respectively. A Shaoshing man for committing an assault was ordered to compensate the complainant with $1. A Shanghai man for stealing some wood from a new house in Foochow Road was sentenced to five days' imprisonment at the Mixed Court. For stealing a pot of flowers from Chang Su-ho's garden, a Nanking man was sentenced to 100 blows. A Ningpo man for committing an assault in the Foochow Road was ordered to pay the complainant $4 compensation. A Shaoshing man was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment, for stealing property valued at $5 from a house in Pekin Road. A native of Wusieh in default of finding security, was imprisoned for one week for stealing carpenter's tools valued at $3 from a houseboat on the Soochow Creek foreshore. A native of Ningpo received 100 blows for stealing clothing valued at $7. A Pootung man was imprisoned for one month for unlawfully disposing of clothing valued at $29.60 which had been entrusted to his care for repairs. The property in the above cases was all recovered.

27th December.

Before Mr. TSAI, *Magistrate*, and Mr. J. SCOTT, *British Assessor*.

For plying for hire with a jinricsha without a licence, a coolie was fined $2.50. In a case of assault a Pootung butcher was remanded for a week until the recovery of the complainant. Twenty one men captured by the police in houses 200 and 201, Hanbury Road on Tuesday night, were before the court on a charge of gambling. The shopkeeper who rented the houses where the gambling was carried on was sentenced to 100 blows, a month's cangue, and not to be allowed to open another teashop. The others were fined $3 each, and two weeks' imprisonment.

28th December.

Before Mr. TSAI, *Magistrate*, and Mr. W. S. EMENS, U.S. *Assessor*.

A Ningpo man was charged with assaulting and beating the complainant. He was sentenced to five days' imprisonment and to find security when released. Five dollars' fine was the sentence on a Kiangpeh man for permitting gambling in his teashop in Boone Road. In a case of cutting and wounding, the defendant was remanded. In a remanded case of theft from the *Yoritomo Maru*, the defendant was sentenced to two months' imprisonment. The police recovered some of the stolen property to the value of one hundred dollars. A mafoo, for driving an untrained pony on Bubbling Well Road to the danger of the public, was fined $3. Three natives of Soochow, for assaulting a man in Kwangse Road, were sentenced to three days' imprisonment each. A mafoo, for touting for hire with a pony and carriage, was fined $1.

MORE LIKELY TO BREAK DOWN.

Who hasn't heard of the good old Deacon in America, and his idea of how a chaise should be built so as to run for ever without repairs? I dare say we all have, yet he hasn't quite gone stale yet.

He said, you remember, that the reason chaises broke down and didn't wear out was that there was always a weakest spot somewhere about them. Now, said the Deacon, the way to fix it is to make that spot as strong as the rest. Then the vehicle might wear out, but couldn't break down. He built a chaise on that principle; it never broke down; it ran a hundred years exactly, and then one day it went to pieces all at once; all at once and nothing first, just as bubbles do when they burst. Its time was come; for, as the man says who once told the story in rhyme, "little of all we value here, wakes on the morn of its hundredth year, without both feeling and looking queer."

Yes, and long before that time most of us begin to look and feel queer. And it's all on account of that weak spot, too. If it wasn't for that we should be like the Deacon's chaise—we should run till we wear out. As it is we break down on the road, often beyond repair. But not always.

Otherwise a certain man could never have used these words. "*I feel as smart to-day as I did thirty years ago.*" His story, in his own words, runs this way:—

"From my youth I was never properly well. I had a bad taste in the mouth and pain after eating. Often I couldn't touch food when it was set before me. I felt a gnawing at the stomach and a tightness at the chest and sides. Sometimes my bowels were so swollen I had to loose my clothes. I had violent pains in my head for days together. This continued for years and years. About thirty years ago I began to have rheumatic pains all over me, especially in the back and legs. I got so bad I couldn't walk without a stick, and on my way to and from my work I had to sit down and rest.

"I got no proper sleep at night owing to the pain. Day nor night, I never knew what it was to be free from pain. As time went by I became quite crippled. Doctor after doctor gave me medicines and rubbing bottles, but none of the things I tried did any good. The doctors said my ailment was rheumatism and lumbago and made light of it, but it was serious enough for me. For thirty years I suffered dreadfully. My wife used to rub me before the fire night after night and apply flannels relieving me only for the time. I gave up all hope of ever being well again, when in November, 1887, I read of the good Mother Seigel's Syrup had done in so many cases. I began to use it, and after taking a few bottles all my aches and pains left me and have never returned since. This medicine seems to have driven all the poison out of my system, and I feel as smart to-day as I did thirty years ago, for which I thank God and Seigel's Syrup. Had I used it sooner I should have been saved years of suffering." (Signed) WILLIAM STODDART, Douglas, near Cork, Ireland, January 7th, 1892.

Mr. Stoddart is gardener at Mrs. Edwards', the Island, Rochestown, and has a shop at Douglas. He is a very respectable man and has been in service at Mrs. Edwards' twenty years.

In his letter he further states that from boyhood he was a victim to indigestion and dyspepsia. This fact explains the rheumatism, as it was the cause of it. The bile acids from the torpid stomach and liver filled the blood, lodged in the joints and muscles, and gave rise to all the consequences he describe. The effect of the Syrup was to expel the acids from the body and set the digestive machinery

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healthily at work, for the first time in this man's life.

This was the way the human vehicle broke down in Mr. Stoddart's cause, but fortunately for him he came across something that had power to repair it. Better watch the weak spots. Delays are dangerous.

(2) 15, 22, 29de 107

BIRTHS.

At Windy Arbour, Carter Road, on the 22nd Dec., the wife of R. S. FURLONGE, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 23rd Dec, the wife of CHARLES DOWDALL, of a daughter.

On the 27th December, at "Woodleigh," Bubbling Well Road, the wife of ARTHUR DALLAS, of a daughter.

At Kiukiang, on the 21st Dec., the wife of M. C. VAN DAALEN WETTERS, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 23rd December, 1893, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., HENRY KING, eldest son of Henry M. HILLER, of Liverpool, to CHARLOTTE ELLEN, second daughter of the late David MENZIES, of Dumfries and Liverpool.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. W. H. Talbot and Geo. Buchanan. For Shimonoseki—Mr. H. Asanuma. 14 in steerage. For Kobe—Mr. and Mrs. Murray, Messrs. W. E. Payne, N. Kuwabara and Y. Goh. 8 in steerage. For Yokohama—Mrs. Soon and infant, Captain E. Ballard, Messrs. Wong and U. K. Lee.

Per str. *Solazie*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. J. Weinberg, Messrs. S. Weinberg, Sun Lee Hauen, A. Wright, T. Wood, J. I. Miller, T. H. Whitehead and 9 Chinese. For Alexandria—Mr. P. Maligin. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. A. Anderson, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Pariset and 2 children, Messrs. F. S. Aubert, Dauch and Levanic.

Per str. *Kwangtes*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Curreem.

Per str. *Paochi*, for Wenchow—Mrs. A. A. Godwin and Mr. Novion.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. W. Boad.

Per str. *Fuhico*, for Hankow—Messrs. Silke, Upcraft, Beaman, Salquist and Openshaw.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, for Kiukiang—Mr. C. Schlee.

Per str. *Fushun*, for Hongkong—Mr. A. H. Hewett.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Ganges*, from London—Mr. and Mrs. Bennett and 3 children, Messrs. Withers, Andreoff Duffs and an amah. From Brindisi—Rev. H. C. and Mrs. Hodges, Mr. Davenport. From Penang—Mr. J. Mariens. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Lee Sik Song and children.

Per str. *Glenshiel*, from London—Miss Gardelin, Mrs. Hards, Messrs. Silke and P. McCann.

Per str. *Sachsen*, from Southampton—Mrs. Olsen and children. From Genoa—Mr. Klein. From Hongkong—Mr. Kumboldt.

Per str. *Yarra*, from Japan for Shanghai—Mrs. von Kreitner and servant, Messrs. Sing, Burke.

Per str. *Kobe Maru*, from Japan, etc.—Mr. and Miss Hegemeyer, Mr. and Mrs. Pon, maid and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Su Foong Yu, Mr. and Mrs. Raw Mow Zeng and daughter, Misses L. Wycoff and Wilmat Rouse, Dr. S. P. Barchet, Messrs. Lam Pak Chong, B. K. Morton, R. Francis, A. H. Hewett, John McArthur, Chun Wai Foo, Nuen Ju Zeng, Nuen Cheong Zeng, John Brown, T. Uno and Fan Zeng Too.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Ningpo—Mr. J. J. Mansfield.

Per str. *Tungchow*, from Amoy—Mr. Nils Möller.

Per str. *Ngankin*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Colin M. Ford, Mr. T. H. Whitehead, Dr. J. Fryer, Messrs. Twentyman, A. T. Maligin, C. de Spangen, G. Mobsby, J. R. Fryer and E. P. Hearnden.

Per str. *Heinchi*, from Chefoo—Miss Hilbold, Messrs. Rickerton and Stooke.

Per str. *Haechin*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Uriate and Mr. Uriate.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Hankow—Mrs., Miss and Master Buyers. From Nanking—Miss Louise Johnston.

Per str. *Suai*, from Hankow—Mr. John W. Pell. From Kiukiang—Messrs. H. T. N. Lydum and S. Netland.

Per str *Hsinfung*, from Hongkong and Canton—Mr. and Mrs. Boad.

Per str. *Hacting*, from Ningpo—Miss Bliss.

Per str. *Canton*, from Hongkong—Messrs. C. Buchanan and Firon.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, from Hankow—Messrs. Endicott, Fearon, Veitch and Butchart.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Ningpo—Messrs. W. Boad and Sheng.

Per str. *Lyeemoon*, from Hongkong—Messrs. E. Wennmohs and A. Wesemann.

Per str. *Fuenwo*, from Hankow—Messrs. Ross, Wolff and Rowand.

Per str. *Yungching*, from Hongkong—Mr. Green.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer: 9 a.m.	Barometer: attached Therm.	Wind: Direction	Wind: Force.	Hygrometer at 9 a.m.: Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9 a.m.: Wet bulb.	Thermometer in shade: Max.	Thermometer in shade: Min.	Initials.
Dec									
23	29.97	46.0	S.	2	46.0	43.0	50 0	42.0	c.
24	30.34	47.0	S.E.	3	47 0	43.0	66.0	40 0	m.
25	30.21	51.0	S.S.E.	3	55 0	47.0	53 0	39 0	m.
26	30.15	48.0	W.	2	48.0	46.0	60 0	42.0	c.
27	30.34	42.0	N.W.	3	42.0	40.0	51.0	40.0	c.
28	30.38	41.0	N.N.W.	3	41.0	38.0	48.0	38.0	s.
29	30.44	39.0	"	3	39.0	35.0	43.0	36.0	s.

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h hail; l lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunde; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

Advertisements.

NOW READY

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Their Causes and Their Remedies.

BEING a full account of all the riots that occurred, and a republication of all Letters, Articles and Documents that have appeared on the subject in the columns of this paper, including Dr. Griffith John's Correspondence; the Views of the Author of "Defensio Populi;" the Imperial Edict and Memorials of the Tsung-li Yamên and Viceroys of Nanking and Wuchang; the investigation of Chou Han's Case, &c., &c., together with a Record of a Six Weeks' Trip in Hunan.

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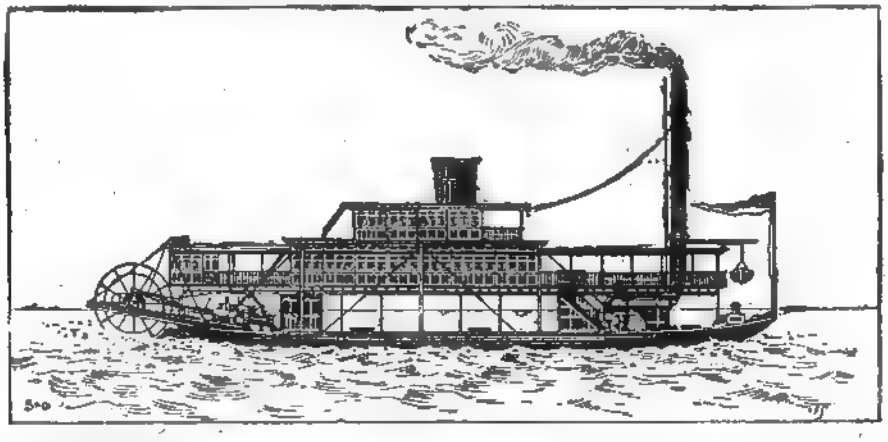
Shanghai, 19th Oct., 1892.

YARROW'S SHALLOW DRAFT STEAMERS.



STERNWHEEL STEAMERS have been found by experience to be the best type of vessel for shallow river navigation, and of these Messrs. YARROW have constructed a large number of successful examples for all parts of the world.

Vessels on this system are constructed, when required, to draw as little as 6 inches.

Messrs. YARROW lately built the sternwheelers "Mosquito" and "Herald" for the British Government, for service on the Zambesi.

They were constructed in floatable sections (capable of shipment), which were simply bolted together, avoiding thereby the costly and difficult process of rivetting up and launching.

For full particulars apply to—

YARROW & CO., Shipbuilders,
POPLAR, LONDON.

11my-94 96 12th May, 1893.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 28th December, 1893.

PIECE GOODS.—There is very little to report this week, as the interval has been largely taken up with the holidays usual at this festive season, and into which the Chinese seem to have entered more thoroughly than ever, the Native Steamer Company, even, graciously postponing the departure of their vessels in order to allow their foreign officers to enjoy Christmas on shore.

Since business was resumed yesterday morning by the Banks the weakness in sterling rates, which commenced to show itself before the last mail left, has become more pronounced and quite counteracts any effect the lower market in MANCHESTER might have had. The demand for remittance, however, has been more for two or three months ahead than for present requirements, and, as the rates obtainable after the Native New Year are much below the current quotations, all chance of doing a forward business is, therefore, done away with. The few transactions reported are simply to supply immediate wants, holders declining to entertain any offers unless at a very substantial advance, the would be investors consequently deem it more prudent to wait. Meanwhile the regular Auctions appear to be amply sufficient for all wants without creating any very keen competition, the dealers anticipating that this state of things will pertain until just before the annual settling, when some surplus funds will be released and become available for investment.

Advices from the North are coming in more slowly now, but, so far, are very promising. Goods have been going freely into consumption, and, as the supply was not any too large, the markets are expected to be quite bare of stock at the commencement of the New Season. The weather is very propitious, the hearts of the country folk in the TIENTSIN district being gladdened by a heavy fall of snow on Christmas day. While writing snow is falling here, which will be very much appreciated in this and the neighbouring Provinces, no rain to speak of having fallen for the last three months, the country being all parched and dried up.

Advices from MANCHESTER continue to be of the same tenor as for the past three weeks, quotations gradually easing down. The heavy receipts of Cotton keep up and are the chief cause of the weaker feeling, but the price remains as before, 4¼d.

Holders of BOMBAY Yarn have been showing some anxiety to quit their stocks in view of the heavy supplies expected shortly from INDIA. It appears the regular steamers are opposing the new JAPANESE line that is being introduced, with a war of rates as the result, freights being reduced from Rs. 17.00 to Rs. 6.00 per ton.

Local Cotton Industry.—The avidity with which the natives proceeded to avail themselves of the permission to erect Mills here seems to have excited the cupidity of the Mandarins, and there is a hitch now as to the meaning of the "one tael per bale" Royalty, the condition on which the concession is to be made, the Authorities claiming, it is said, that it is to be calculated on the full working capacity of the Machines imported, whether they are worked full time or not. This certainly seems to be very unreasonable, and until it is considerably moderated must postpone the commencement of the enterprise, although the sites of one or two of the proposed Mills have already been secured.

Stocks.—The end of another year being close at hand the Chamber of Commerce are asking for a return of the Stocks on 1st proximo to be made as usual. Many Importers must have little or nothing to declare, and it is hoped that on this occasion many small items, which have been over looked before when the Godowns were full, will now be included, and so render the returns as accurate as possible.

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—Again only a small business is reported, amounting to about 10,000 pieces in all, though some may be resales —*Blue Eagle* T1.77½, *Blue Man and Fish* T1.93 (from Japan) *Red 2 Lion and Stag*, *Two Joss* and *Silver Spyce* T2.05, *Silver Wildman* T2.07½, *Three Feet* T2.10 and *Blue Dragon and 5 Old Men* T2 15. These sales are all for prompt cash and show a very firm market. At yesterday's Auction prices were slightly lower than last week for the commoner qualities, but to-day they were firmer.

Light Weights.—Prices at auction this morning were strong for both 6 and 7-lbs., the former advancing four candareens.

Heavy Weights.—There is more enquiry for the ordinary makes but it has not led to any business yet. The only transaction mentioned from private hands is 2,500 pieces 12-lbs. *Five Boy* at T2.75, "to arrive." Prices are advancing at auction and look very strong.

12-lbs. 36-inch.—A *Soldier* chop has been taken at T2.77 for a moderate quantity, but sales of good quality are pending in the neighbourhood of T3.00. Re-sales of *Continentals* have been made at T3.05.

White Shirtings.—These are a blank privately. At auction 64-reeds are quieter, the commoner chops in fact declined 5 candareens. The lower 72-reed makes are also easier, but good qualities are firm.

T-Cloths.—A sale of *Red Dragon* 32-inch *Mexicans* is mentioned at T1.37½ and *Gold Vase* 36-inch at T2.20—which is all that has been done. Firmer prices are ruling at auction for both makes.

Indian are quite neglected at present, the Northern markets being the chief consumers.

Jeans.—*English.*—The market is very strong, a sale has been made privately of *Lion and Tree* at T2.47½, the small lot at auction, also, going higher. In *American* a sale of 2,000 pieces *Bearer* is announced at T2.67½.

Drills.—No sales of any make have been published this week. Prices are improving in the North, T3.55 being paid for *Pepperells* in NEWCHWANG. *Massachusettes* have been resold here at T3.40.

Sheetings.—Nothing doing in *English* makes. In *American* sales "to arrive" are reported at rather better prices, but only just sufficient to cover the decline in Exchange. It is said that 2,500 pices *Cabot W* have changed hands at T2.95 and 3,000 pieces *Augusta Crescent* at T3.00.

Cotton Yarn.—*Indian.*—The TIENTSIN dealers appear to consider present prices for 10s. and 16s. safe, and have invested this week in about 1,500 bales, which are to be paid for promptly and put into the steamer godowns. Prices are fairly steady. A moderate quantity of No. 20s. have been taken at firm rates for the HANKOW and KIUKIANG markets. Sales amount in all to 1,834 bales, as follows :—

No. 10s. 465 bales—*Jubilee*, Mule (new chop) T52, *Dhun* T52½, *Presidency* T52¾, *Connaught* T54, *James Greaves* and *Howard* T54¼, *Bombay Cotton* T54½ and *Tea Carrier* T54¾.

No. 12s., 20 bales—*Bombay National* T54½.

No. 16s., 932 bales—*Anglo-Indian*, *Dhun*, *Kaisar-I-Hind*, *Vithaldas Copoldas* and *Ripon*, Mule T61¼, *Sun Mill* T61½, *Western India* T62/61¾, *Bombay National* T62, *Bombay Cotton* T62/624, and *Currimbhoy* T63.

No. 20s., 437 bales - *Hope Mill* and *Alliance* 67, *Star of India* and *Imperial* T67¼, *Jubilee* and *James Greaves* T67½, *Motilall* T67¾, *Connaught* T68 and *Howard and Bullough* T68¼.

Fancy Goods.—Beyond a small demand for the heavier weights of *Turkey Reds*, which has led to a little business, the goods in this department have been very quiet. The enquiry for *Velvets*, mentioned last week, still continues but has not resulted in business yet. The dealers have been asking about *Muslins* lately, and it is thought that something may be done in them shortly as the margin between buyers and sellers is gradually lessening. *Cotton Flannels* are perfectly stagnant, the result of the JAPANESE competition. The natives are already finding out irregularities in the both the make and the packing of these goods, which will shake their confidence in their neighbours' articles of manufacture for sometime probably. It is also reported that an Agent, entrusted with the sale of 65 cases, has bolted with the proceeds !

Woollens.—Considering the very moderate quantities put up the results of the Auctions this week are decidedly disappointing. CAMLETS are weaker, *Scarlet* in the leading chop declining two mace, but other colors are not so bad. Privately a sale of 100 pieces *WWW Dark Blue* is reported at T17.25. LONG ELLS were scarcely represented at all, the small lot of *Scarlet* showing a recovery of nearly ⅓ mace in the fortnight. LASTINGS are strong at Auction, especially the lower reed, which advanced nearly two mace since last week. The usual chops of SPANISH STRIPES were absent at yesterday and to-day's sales, but judging by the prices realised for *H.H.* there is not much inducement to put up good qualities.

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Metal and Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's Report of 29th December:—Business since date of my last circular, the 22nd instant, has been interrupted by the Christmas holidays, and consequently there is less to report then usual. Quotations have remained nominally unchanged, I retrain therefore from giving a full report. The market for METALS has been quiet, and Chinese offers for most descriptions are from 10 to 15 per cent. under cost of present arrivals, especially in Old Horse-shoes, Tyres, Plates, etc. A sale of 500 tons Sohiers Nailrods, "to arrive," is reported, but particulars have not leaked out. I hear also that 300 tons Boiler Tubes, 600 tons Plate Cuttings, forward delivery, have been settled at a shade over previous rates. Liverpool Horse-shoes are reported done at 77/ c.f.i. Lead has been quiet, and sales are of a retail character. Prices for "spot" are without change, but futures are a shade weaker. Trade in Miscellaneous Goods may be termed at a standstill, beyond small consumptive wants there is nothing doing, and it seems that there will not be any settlements of importance until after Chinese New Year. With the exception of a contract for 2,000 cases Window Glass, "to arrive," at T2.65, and 1,000 cases "spot," at T2.62½, there are no sales worthy of record made public.

Kerosene Oil.—Is lower again, and business in "spot" has been at T1.27 for "spot" Devoes. s.s. *Gulf of Genoa* arrived with 50,000 cases from New York.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—Malwa (new) T470, (old) T470/480; Patna, (new) T458; Benares, (new) T468.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's Circular of 28th December:—From London the following quotations were wired on 22nd current:—Blue Elephants 11/0., Gold Kilin 9/1½.

RAW SILK.—Holidays have interfered with business this past week, but considering the curtailment of working days, a fair number of transactions have to be recorded. Demand is distinctly stronger, and the tone of this market is firmer than for some time past.

TSATLEES.—Settlements amount to 500 bales, and prices for the qualities most enquired for are T2½ *a* T5 per picul above our quotations of last week.

HANGCHOWS.—About 100 bales have changed hands.

TAYSAAMS.—Fully 200 bales have found buyers at fair prices.

YELLOW SILKS.—A fair demand is current, and settlements are about 150 bales for the week.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from 21st to 27th December, are 750 bales White, 190 bales Yellow, and 1,467 bales Wild Silks.

FILATURES AND RE-REELS.—Some considerable settlements are reported in ordinary Re-reel Filatutes, some of which are for Continental markets, and one or two lots of market No. 4 Re-reels have been bought for America.

WILD SILKS.—Are not in demand, transactions are very limited and prices are weak.

WASTE SILKS.—Some Curlies have been taken at T73.00 for No. 1 and T66.50 *a* T67.00 for Nos. 1, 2, 3 usual assortment. Honan Bassinets are reported sold at T22.50 and some Flosses No. 1 at T17.50.

Purchases include:—TSATLEES.—Gold Elephant at T385, Gold Lion at T355, Bird Chun-ling at T385, Large Elephant 3 at T382½, Mountain 4 at T355, 3 at T382½, Green Elephant at T350, Silver Double Elephant at T340, Yaconlays Seeling at T340, Gold Kiling at T340, Chay Kiling at T302½. HANGCHOW TSATLEES.—Lanhock at T307½, Pagoda Tingfoong at T307½, Blue Lion Tayor at T302½. TAYSAAMS.—Green Kahing Cicada 1 and 2 proportion price at T330, Gr. Kahing Gold Goose 1 at T330, 2 at T292½, Tongpan at T300, 9/12 Moss Green Stork 3 at T272½. CHINCUM.—Fighting Cock 1 and 2 proportion price at T326½. SKEINS.—Chingyan at T217½. YELLOW SILK.—Meeyung at T210 *a* T225, Fooyung at T190 *a* T195, Wongchow at T166½ *a* T177½, Szechong at T170 *a* T172½. FILATURES.—Market Chop at T440 *a* T455. RE-REEL.—Market Chop at T307½.

	1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.	
Settlements for this mail ....about	1,500	250	500	1,600	2,900	1,300	bales.
,, ,, season including forward contracts..... ,,	47,000	54,250	48,500	37,200	54,200	45,500	,,
Stock§..... ,,	14,000	11,750	13,500	14,800	10,000	3,000	,,
Total Arrivals§..... ,,	61,000	66,000	62,000	52,200	64,200	48,500	,,

§ Including old Silk.

Memo: White Silk to Europe averages P. 0.80 per bale.
,, ,, ,, America ,, 1.00 ,,
Yellow ,, ,, Europe ,, 1.00 ,,

Memo: Yellow Silk to Asia averages P. 1.25 per bale.
Wild ,, averages 1.00 ,,

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.	
Export White Silk	4,045	25,566	29,611	1,205	2,465	944	34,225	bales.
,, Yellow ,, ...	10	3,169	3,179	1	4,051	737	7,968	,,
,, Wild ,, ...	47	1,789	1,836	87	7	36	1,966	,,
	4,102	30,524	34,626	1,293	6,523	1,717	44,159	,,
Against in 1892-93.....	2,350	42,246	44,596	3,757	3,872	1,355	53,580	,,
,, 1891-92.....	5,720	32,286	38,006	4,007	4,259	1,126	47,398	,,
Export Waste Silk	8,380	21,681	30,061	...	50	115	30,226	piculs
,, Cocoons	815	4,268	5,083	475	1	539	6,098	,,

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.
Also 236 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

Exchange.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 3s. 1⅛d. Banks Bills, demand, 3s. 1⅛d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 3s. 2⅛d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 3s. 2⅛d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 2⅛d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 3s. 2⅛d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 2⅛d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Frs. 3.94; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 4.04, 6 months' sight, 4.07. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 3.27. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 125⅞. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 72⅛ per cent. discount; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 72⅛. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers 72⅝. Private Bills, 15 days' sight, 71⅞. On Bombay and Calcutta—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 249. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 249½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 touch, T305.00. Silver Bars, T111. Mexican dollars, T73.7. Carolus dollars, T88.00. Copper Cash, 1,390 Chinese Interest, mace 1.2. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 31⅞.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morriss & Fergusson's Circular.)

	Bar Silver per oz in L'don.	On London. T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		France. Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		Germany. 4 m/s. Priv.	N. Yk. Docty 4 m/s.	Hongkong.	Yokohama. T/T	India. T/T Rupees.
Dec.		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.					
27th.....	32⅛	3.2⅛	3.2⅛	3.2⅝	3.2⅝	3.3	3.3⅛	3.3⅛	3.3⅛	4.09/4.11	4.10/4.13	3.32	124	72⅝	72⅝	250
28th.....	32/32⅛	3.1⅞	3.2⅛	3.2⅛	3.2⅜	3.2⅝	3.3	3.3	3.3⅛	4.07/4.10	4.09/4.12	3.31	124½	72⅝	72⅝	250 nom.
29th.....	31⅞	3.1⅝	3.1⅞	3.2⅝	3.2⅛	3.2⅝	3.2½	3.2⅝	3.2⅝	4.07/4.10	4.04/4.07	3.28	125⅛	72⅝	72⅝	249 ,,

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Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 27th December, 1893, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 296 to 301, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Distinations.																
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Ichang & Chunking.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Japan.	Corea.	Vladivostock.	Local.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings † .....Pcs.	8,725	1,145	5,710	460	2.830	20,395	...	8,750	7,845	...	1,300	...	8,000	2150	1,790	7,000	150
T-Cloths, 32-in. ..... ,,	1,540	540	470	...	60	1,120	...	5,310	675	...	1,040	...	...	...	60	2,500	...
,, Indian, 32 & 36-in. .. ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
,, 36-in. ..... ,,	1,000	...	160	...	140	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	...
White Shirtings..... ,,	1,660	280	1,190	150	901	6,517	...	1,150	3,699	...	...	50	...	50	...	2,000	408
Drills, English & Dutch.. ,,	220	120	345	45	...	805	...	1,110	3,780	...	60	...	195	225	180	200	...
,, American ..... ,,	75	15	105	...	...	1,425	...	780	2,400	...	15	...	...	...	...	90	...
Jeans, English & Dutch.. ,,	30	...	30	...	...	60	...	...	480	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
,, American ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English..... ,,	280	...	390	180	120	690	...	700	1,960	...	...	...	...	...	100	350	...
,, Indian ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,690	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
,, American..... ,,	100	...	...	20	...	...	...	2,160	2,800	...	...	...	...	...	...	250	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	120	...	720	...	365	110	...	260	...	...	...	...	...	50	90	50	...
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W. ,,	50	...	50	...	53	210	...	739	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	102	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Printed T-Cloths ..... ,,	50	50	588	...	...	1,294	...	485	210	...	...	80	...	...	...	350	120
Printed Twills ..... ,,	...	84	252	...	..	190	...	528	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	250	...
Turkey Red Shirtings ... ,,	345	105	685	...	435	1,169	...	4,556	275	...	278	106	100	...	50	250	100
Velvets..... ,,	60	...	...	...	60	354	...	32	30	...	30	...	...	...	...	90	...
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.		...	1,939	300	970	1,200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	3,500	...
Muslins.....Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Lenos & Balzarines ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	150	...
Cotton Yarn, Indian.....Pcls.	281	...	168	45	539	5,445	...	4,067	942	...	15	...	...	...	...	120	...
,, English ... ,,	24	...	...	...	...	738	...	15	15	..	..	...	...	36	..	18	...
Spanish Stripes, Woollen. Pcs.	162	78	72	12	78	276	...	18	138	...	24	12	...	6	72	120	24
,, Cotton. , ,,	...	...	12	...	6	24	...	192	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	50	...
Medium & Broad Cloths. ,,	...	18	6	...	...	80	...	22	...	..	...	78	...	10	...	40	...
Camlets ..... ,,	60	170	30	30	140	320	...	60	...	...	50	160	...	...	70	140	...
Long Ells ..... ,,	60	60	80	125	100	845	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Lastings ..... ,,	40	...	80	20	120	870	...	290	90	...	60	40	...	60	100	150	...
Italian Cloth ..... ,,	120	60	210	60	30	630	...	150	210	...	30	...	...	...	...	160	30
Cotton Lastings & Italians ,,	498	260	530	80	30	3,108	...	1,540	1,661	...	...	...	80	240	222	350	107
Plain & Figured Orleans. ,,	...	60	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	...
Cotton Flannels ..... ,,	385	180	530	210	117	240	...	380	200	...	290	...	1,678	90	...	350	979
Lead in Pigs .....Pcls.	114	16	63	...	...	675	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	309	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	231	42	2.382	413	416	1,432	...	189	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kerosine Oil, American.. Cas.	2,500	...	3,056	4,500	7,877	44 676	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Russian ... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Total Deliveries.			Total Imports.			Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns, on 31st Dec., 1892.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1893.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1893.	Against last year to same term.	* At date Estimated.	Against 30th December, 1892
Grey Shirtings † .....Pcs.	70,250	4,629,645	6,142,537	140,518	4,027,689	5,924,675	759,029	1,122,624
T-Cloths, 32-in. ..... ,,	13,315	814,940	1,323,138	24,753	303,844	1,349,647	189,349	263,782
,, Indian, 32 & 36-in.... ,,	950	233,596		7,900	152,040		20,004	
,, 36-in. ..... ,,	3.360	180.193	285,328	7,232	189,556	311,824	63,249	83,398
White Shirtings ..... ,,	18.055	1,363,815	1,388,111	44,293	1,281,615	1,578,074	280,435	337,162
Drills, English & Dutch... ,,	7,285	434,242	369,430	43,172	471,422	189,630	56,845	10,201
,, American ..... ,,	4,905	405,535	638,912	8.625	407,900	572,762	17,440	3,379
Jeans, English & Dutch... ,,	750	135,419	164,485	3,334	102,372	126,636	193	35,154
,, American ..... ,,	.....	23,890	18,470	..	18.000	18,000	110	1,379
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	4,770	692,734	742,119	26,570	695,485	693,508	88,324	139,748
,, Indian ..... ,,	2,790	33,869		8,780	80,280		13,950	
,, American ..... ,,	5,330	853,360	1,519,964	24,445	858,895	1,385,730	171,900	200,540
Dyed Shirtings..... ,,	1,765	210,814	254,105	4,865	146.208	228,938	?	27,067
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W. ,,	1,152	53,870	39,930	2,186	56,766	26,320	13,453	562
Chintzes..... ,,	312	44,951	57,552	1,655	54,553	71,550	28,486	26,581
Printed T-Cloths ..... ,,	3,207	456,962	480,292	12,903	474,404	530,203	229,142	248,176
Printed Twills ..... ,,	1,424	96,900	135,709	1,523	100,630	177,337	80,398	48,087
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	8,451	326,635	448,368	6,250	145,071	337,525	75,394	273,451
Velvets ..... ,,	656	29,285	39,627	288	38,347	42,089	16,722	8,189
Velveteens..... ,,	54	8,647	13,062	150	9,475	10,349	2,702	1,011
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	8,129	357,475	421,784	11,376	440,696	540,797	252,350	182,521
Muslins .....Pcs.	200	187,812	187,287	427	250,766	225,731	129,063	65,353
Lenos & Balzarines ..... ,,	.....	78,638	96,365	... ...	72,687	81,670	17,551	14,658
Cotton Yarn, Indian .....Pcls.	11,622	500,735	740,855	14,885	461,866	681,094	17,489	41,565
,, English ..... ,,	846	21,549	34,579	957	17,683	15,947	176	4,147
Spanish Stripes, Woollen.. ,,	1,092	35,643	38,851	2,076	63,308	47,228	12,825	5,948
,, Cotton ... ,,	308	19,444	28,025	1,512	26,101	24,076	9,304	?
Medium and Broad Cloths ,,	274	20,298	26,075	395	16,460	37,041	13,292	15,492
Camlets ..... ,,	1,230	61,919	73,658	3,144	61,499	62,399	6,650	5,523
Long Ells ..... ,,	1,440	73,021	77,399	4,540	78,520	72,780	14,462	5,140
Lastings..... ,,	1,920	190,999	7,268	670	136,882	115,982	41,268	7,268
Italian Cloth ..... ,,	1,680	73,259	84,621	3,374	105,341	71,248	40,646	5,697
Cotton Lastings & Italians ,,	8,706	529,940	589,318	10,313	681,767	671,923	343,039	219,544
Plain & Figured Orleans... ,,	150	7,455	26,151	...	5.319	11,467	2,541	1,300
Cotton Flannels ..... ,,	5.629	101,550	80,526	7,860	140.698	103,499	61,198	74,567
Lead in Pigs.....Pcls.	1,217	98,530	88,316	.....	85,843	104.378	7,855	26,038
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	5,105	169,248	199,457	5,040	216,041	187,755	119,402	95,214
Kerosine Oil, American ...Cas.	62,603	2,057,961	1,269,533	113,309	2,209,472	1,666,875 ‡	242,272	623,971
,, Russian..... ,,	3,000	401,530	384,500	.....	513,202	309,515 ‡	?	1,308

† Including *English* and *Dutch* 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Malacca, Telemachus, Kintuck, Manila, Natal, Palinurus, Pingmey, Gisela, Ganges, Gulf of Genoa* and *Sachsen.*

Import Cargoes declared during interval: *Dardanus, Oldenburg, Empress of Japan, Yarra, Glenogle, Afghan, Rohilla,* in Bond ex *Kintuck* and *Manila.*

‡ From the daily returns from the Wharves.

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SHARES.

Shanghai, 29th December, 1893.

The Christmas holidays have interfered with business.

Banks.—*Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.*—Shares have been placed at 96 and 98 per cent. premium.

Docks.—Shares in *Boyd & Co.* at ₹141½.

Marine Insurance.—*China Traders'* shares were sold at $56, and *North-Chinas* at ₹137½ and 140. They are wanted at the latter rate.

Fire Insurance.—A sale of *Chinas* was made to-day at $82. *Hongkongs* are wanted at $202½.

Miscellaneous.—*Shanghai Land Investment* shares were placed at ₹29, and shares in *J. Llewellyn & Co.* at $55.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	Position per Last Report. Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	Last Dividend, &c. To Shareholders.	When paid or due.	Cash Quotation Closing.
Banks.									Taels.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. Co	80,000	$125	$125	$3,900,000.00	$119,280.16	30 June 93	*£1	21 Aug 93	98¾ pm. 180.67
Bank of China, Jap. & Straits, Ld	199,375	£10	£1½	.....	£2,002.13.10	31 Dec 92	†0.49	4 Mar 92	..... 1.50 nom
Do. Founders'	1,250	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	†₹35.23	14 Feb 91	£20.0.0 106.96
National Bank of China, Ld. *A*	19,970	£10	£8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
Do. *B*	29,955	£10	£8	.....	$50,245.98	30 June 93	None.	.....	$22.00 16.06
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	$130.00 94.90
Shipping.									
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ld. ...	1,000	₹100	₹100	₹3,000	₹171.12	31 Dec 92	₹3	20 Dec. 93	..... 87.00
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	49,589	£10	£10	£35,000.00	£1,086.7.2	31 Dec 92	†2½%	7 July 92	..... 21.00
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	₹150	₹150	₹4,054.27	₹376.05	30 June 93	₹8½	8 Sept 93	... 150.00
Ch. Mutual S.N.Co. pref. shares	20,000	£10	£10						£6.10.0 33.91
Do. ord. do.	10,000	£10	£5	£114,000.00	£1,296.19.0	31 Dec 92	*3%	2 Oct 93	£1.0.0 5.26
Do. do. do.	10,000	£10	£3½						£0.10.0 2.61
Tuku Tug and Lighter Co., Ld.	8,600	T.₹50	T.₹50	₹73,449.16	₹5,182.45	31 Dec 92	*3%	31 July 93	T.₹55.00 57.75
H'kong, C'ton & M'cao S.B.Co.	80,000	$20	$20	$619,000.00	$25,864.49	30 June 93	*6%	31 July 93	$28.75 20.99
Docks.									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	₹500	₹500	₹18,667.07	‡₹164.93	30 June 93	*₹12	3 July 93	..... 420.00
Boyd & Co., Ld., Founders'....	200	₹100	₹100	₹81,000.00	₹2,027.81	30 April 93	†₹10	26 July 93	..... 300.60
Boyd & Co., Ld.	7,800	₹100	₹100						..... 130.00
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ld.	7,500	₹100	₹100	₹15,000.00	₹2 793.13	30 June 93	†₹9	8 Sept 93	..... 97.50
Insurance (Marine.)									
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ld. ...	24,000	$83.33	$25	$750,000.00	$207,615.28	30 April 93	†$4.50	16 Sept 93	$56.00 40.88
North-China Ins. Co., Ld.....	5,000	£200	£25	₹200,000.00	₹159,969.32	31 Dec 92	†₹26.67	22 April 93	..... 140.00
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	10,000	$250	$25	$904,000.00	$488,840.60	30 June 93	†$7	14 Oct 93	$89.00 64.97
Yangtsze Insurance Ass'tion, Ld	6,948	$100	$60	$280,000.00	$133,627.84	31 Dec 92	†$6%	27 April 93	$62.50 45.63
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	$250	$50	$850,000.00	$52,863.15	31 Dec 92	$4	31 Oct 93	$140.00 102.20
Straits Insurance Co., Ld.....	30,000	$100	$20	$64,017.87	$9,487.16	.....	†5%	15 July 92	$13.25 9.67
Insurance (Fire.)									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ld....	8,000	$250	$50	$1,060,000	$301,495.70	31 Dec 92	†$17.50	16 Mar 93	$202.50 147.82
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld..	20,000	$100	$20	$823,000.00	$183,787.54	31 Dec 92	†$7	7 Mar 93	$82.00 59.86
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	20,000	$100	$20	$127,500.00	$22,845.03	31 Dec 92	†5%	29 Mar 93	$17.00 12.41
Wharves.									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co...	2,867	₹100	₹100	₹94,089.75	₹4,302.19	31 Dec 92	*₹6.00	10 Aug 93	..... 265.60
Birt's Wharf H. C. & W. C. Co.	2,100	₹50	₹50	₹10,000.00	...	31 Oct 92	*3½%	29 Nov. 93	.. ... 37.00
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ld	20,000	$50	$50	.....	$14,409.37	31 Dec 92	*$1.25	31 July 93	$37.00 27.01
Mining.									
Sheridan Con. M. & M. Co., Ld.	20,000	₹100	₹100	.....	‡₹47,714.08	31 Dec 92	None.	.....	..... 2.00
Smuggler Union Mining Co. ...	50,000	G. $100	G. $100	... ..	‡$48,965.72	1 April 93	.....	.. ...	..... nominal.
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ld. ...	115,000	$1	$0.50	.....	‡$95,449.49	30 June 91	None.	.. ...	.. ... do.
Do. do. ...	25,000	$1	$1						..... do.
Cargo Boats.									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.....	1,000	₹200	₹200	₹40,397.90	₹2,643.16	31 Dec 92	*6%	1 Aug 93	..... 210.00
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co....	1,000	₹100	₹100	₹11,000.00	₹1,930.32	31 Dec 92	*3%	1 Aug 93	.. ... 80.00
Miscellaneous.									
Shanghai Gas Co.....	2,000	₹100	₹100	₹100,000.00	₹12,644.41	31 Dec 92	*6%	6 July 93	..... 197.50
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	7,200	£20	£20	₹25,723.08	₹218.45	31 Dec 92	*3%	8 Aug 93	..... 158.50
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ld	5,000	₹50	₹50	.. ...	₹201.08	30 June 93	2%	18 Oct 93	..... 29.00
Hall & Holtz, Ld.	6,000	$20	$20	.....	...		First year.		$15.00 10.95
Japan Brewery Co., Ld.....	1,500	$100	$100	$10,345.85	$3,061.51	31 Dec 91	*$5%	10 Mar 92	$104.00 75.92
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ld.	20,000	₹50	₹30	₹28,263.17	₹301.51	31 Dec 92	*3%	24 July 93	..... 29.00
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.....	1,200	$100	$100	.. ..	$254.06	31 Dec 92	†7%	25 May 93	$55.00 40.15
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld	1,800	₹50	₹50	₹1,903.86	₹1,855.54	31 Dec 92	*₹1½	13 Nov 93	.. ... 38.50
Major Brothers, Ld.....	6,000	₹50	₹50	.....	₹16,419.36	31 Oct 93	*₹1.50	9 Dec 92	..... 35.00
Y'hama Engin. & Iron Work, Ld.	1,300	$100	$100	$10,225.99	.....	30 Nov 91	*3%	30 Nov 91	$25.00 18.25
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	1,290	$100	$100	$7,311.93	.. ...	31 Dec 92	$20.00	31 July 93	..... 130.00
Shanghai-Lankat Tob. Co., Ld.	1,590	₹100	₹80	.....	.. ..	.....	First year.		..... 50.00
Do. Founders'	10	₹100	₹70	.....	.....	.....	First year.		..... 525.00
L'Hôtel des Colonies, Ld. ...	500	₹50	₹50	.....	.....	31 Dec 92	†7%	25 April 93	..... 13.50
	1,500	₹50	₹30	.....	.....	31 Dec 92	†7%	25 April 93	.. ... 8.00
Shanghai Ice Co	360	₹100	₹100	₹250.00		31 Oct 92	†9½%	10 Jan 93	... ... 105.00
A. S. Watson & Co., Ld.....	50,000	$10	$10	$225,000.00	$7,704.85	31 Dec 92	*3%	23 May 93	$10.00 7.30

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1883	₹45,000.00	₹15,000.00	₹100	7 %	Dec. & June	... nominal.
Do. 1884	₹15,000.00	₹15,000.00	₹100	7 %	Do.	... ,,
Do. 1885	₹30,000.00	₹30,000.00	₹100	7 %	Do.	... ,,
Do. 1888	₹70,000.00	₹70,000.00	₹100	6 %	Do.	... ,,
Do. 1890	₹20,000.00	₹20,000.00	₹100	6 %	Do.	... ,,
Do. 1891	₹20,000.00	₹20,000.00	₹100	5½ %	Do.	... (a) ₹100.00
Do. 1892	₹50 000.00	₹50,000.00	₹100	5 %	Do.	... ₹100.00
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures.	£300,000	£68,000	£100	7 %	Quarterly	£100 (a) ₹596.27
Lyceum Theatre Debentures.....	₹17,000.00	₹17,000.00	₹25	*4 %	2 Sept. '92	... ₹11.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E	S.₹767,200.00	₹716,800.00	₹250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	... (a) ₹277.50
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. Debentures.	₹250,000.00	₹250,000.00	₹100	6 %	May & Nov.	... (a) ₹100.00
Do. Do.	₹105,200.00	₹105,200.00	₹100	5½%	June & Dec.	... ₹100.00

* For half year. ‖ For quarter year. † For year. ‡ A deficit. § A dividend of 6% for the half year to 31st Dec., 1892, was paid on 12th Jan., 1893. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

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